



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

925
097
1863

UC-NRLF



B 3 528 576

OLD ENGLISH POEM,
OF
THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE

BY STEPHEN

FRANCIS HENRY STEATMANN

PRINTED FOR THE EDITOR BY ERNST AND RAHM
KREFELD 1868

THE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LIBRARY

925
C 97
1868



For out of olde fables ab men seith
Cometh al this newe counse to peer to yere
And out of olde booke in good feith
Cometh al this newe science that men have

EX LIBRIS
WM DALLAM ARMES

AN
OLD ENGLISH POEM
OF
THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE

EDITED BY
FRANCIS HENRY STRATMANN



PRINTED FOR THE EDITOR BY KRAMER AND BAUM
KREFELD 1868

TO YOU
AMAZONIA

PREFACE.

The following poem is found in two manuscripts; one in the British Museum, London, manusc. Cotton. Calig. A. IX, of the first half of the thirteenth century; the other in the library of Jesus College, Oxford, Arch. I. 29, of the latter half of the thirteenth century. It has been twice printed; by Stevenson, in 1838, from the Cotton manuscript with a few readings of the Jesus College manuscript, and by Th. Wright, in 1843, from the Cotton manuscript alone. I have now tried to give a critical edition of it, founded on a careful collation of both manuscripts, the different readings of which are noted at the bottom of the page. Consistency in the spelling I have observed as far as possible. How I have succeeded in my endeavours to restore my text to its original perfection my readers may decide.

I thankfully acknowledge the continual assistance of Mr F. J. Furnivall, the zealous promoter of old English literature.

KREFELD, 2 March 1868.

F. H. STRATMANN.

434524

Ich pas in one sumere dale [ms. Cotton. fol. 283a
 In one spipe dale hale ms. Arch. fol. 229a]
 Iherde ich hōde grete tale
 An(e) ute and one nihtegale
 5 pat plaid pas stiff and starc and strong Sum hpile softe and lud a mong
 And eiper aȝen oper spal.
 And let pat uvele mod ut al
 And eiper seide of opres custe
 all 10 pat alre porste pat bi puste
 And hure and hure of opres songe
 Hi heolde plaiding spipe stronge
 Lerner þe nihtegale bigon pe speche
 In one hurne of one breche
 15 And sat up one faire boȝe par pere abutē blosme inoȝe
 ? ~~one~~ mixed In ore paste picke hegge
 ? ~~one~~ mid spire and grene segge
 ? ~~one~~ Heo pas pe gladre for be rise
 20 And song a fede lymde
 Bet puhte pe drem pat he pere
 Of harpe and pipe pan he nere
 Bet puhte pat he pere ischote
 Of harpe and pipe pan of prote
 25 Po stod on old stoc par bi side
 par pe ule song hire tide —
 And pas mid ixi al bigrope
 Hit pas pare (ule) eardingstope — dwelling place

1 wes Arch. — 2 swipe Arch. supe Cot. — dyele Arch. — 4 ule
 Arch. hule Cot. — nyhtegale Arch. nytingale Cot. — 5 plait Cot. —
 6 pile Cot. hwile Arch. — 7 an Cot. — eyper Arch. aiper Cot. —
 ayeyn Arch. — swal Arch. sual Cot. — 8 & Cot. — wole Cot. for
 uvele — 9 operes Cot. — 10 alere Cot. — wrste Arch. — ywuste
 Arch. — 11 opere Cot. — 12 holde Cot. and Arch. — supe Cot. —
 13 niȝtingale Cot. — po speke Arch. — 14 beche Arch. — 15 vaire
 Cot. and Arch. — bowe Arch. — 16 pat Arch. — blostme inowe
 Arch. — 17 vaste pikke Arch. — 19 ho Cot. he Arch. cmp. l. 934—
 gladd' Arch. gladur Cot. — vor Cot. and Arch. — 20 veole Arch.
 vele Cot. — 21 het puzte Cot. — 23 ishote Cot. — 25 stok Arch.
 — 26 ȝule Cot. — 28 hule Cot. — erdingstowe Arch.

TO VIMI

AMMOTILLA^N

þe nihtegale hi ise;

30 And hi bihold and overse;
And þante ~~þel~~^{þel} ful of þare ule ^{þel}
For me hi hant loplich and fule
Unpiht heo seide a pey þu fleo [ms. Arch. fol. 229 b]

35 Iwys for þine fule leta. [ms. Cot. fol. 233 b]

Pel oft ich mine song forlete ~~forwe~~

Min heorte ~~þin~~^{þin} and falt mi tunga

Hƿonne þu art to me iþrunge

Me luste bet speten pane singe

40 Of pine fule ~~þorlunge~~^{mætonous song}

þeos ule abod fort hit pas eve

Heo ne mihte no leng biley

For hire heorte pas so gret

þat pel ne; hire fnast atschet

45 And parp a pord par after longe

Hu pincpe nu bi mine songe

Penst þu pat ich ne cunne singe

þe; ich ne cunne of pritelinge

Ileme þu dest me grame — ~~harm~~

50 And seist me bope teone and schame

þif ich pe heolde on mine fote

So hit bitide þat ich mote

And þu pere ut of pine rise

þu scholdest singe an oper pise

55 þe nihtegale ȝaf ansparre

þif ich me loki ƿip þe bare

And me schilde ƿip þe blete

Ne recche ich noht of pine prete

þif ich me holde in mine hegge

29 nixtingale Cot. — iseyh Arch. — 30 bihold Cot. biholdep Arch.
— 31 þuyte Cot. — wl (= vul) Cot. — hule Cot. — 32 lodlich Cot.
and Arch. — 33 ho sede Cot. — flo Cot. — 34 wurs Arch. wrs
Cot. — so Cot. iseo Arch. — 35 wle Cot. — 36 ofte Arch. — fur-
lete Arch. — 37 horte atflip Cot. — tonge Cot. — 38 ponne Cot.
hwenne Arch. — 40 howelynge Arch. — 41 pos hule Cot. — 42
ho Cot. — miȝte Cot. — 43 vor Cot. — horte Cot. — 44 neyh
Arch. — atset Arch. — 46 hw Arch. — 47 pest Cot. wenestu
Arch. — 48 þe Arch. — 49 grome Arch. — 50 tone Cot. — scho-
me Arch. — 51 if Arch. — holde Cot. — vote Arch. uote Cot. —
54 sholdest Cot. — pse Cot. wise Arch. — 55 yaf Arch. — answare
Cot. onsware Arch. — 56 wip Arch. pit Cot. — 58 noȝt Cot. nouȝt
Arch.

60 Ne recche ich never hpat þu segge *say*
 Ich pot pat þu art unmilde
 Pip heom pat ne muȝe (heom) from pe schilde
 And þu tukest ȝrope and uvele
 Hþar þu miht over smale fuzele *bird tribe*

65 For pi þu aft lop al fuzelcunne [ms. Arch. fol. 229 c]
 And alle heo pe drivep heonne *se - er - h*
 And pe bischrichep and bigrededp — *cry out*
 And pel narepe pe bilededp.
 And ek for pe pe sulye mose [ms. Cot. fol. 233 c]

70 Hire þonkes polde pe totose *the mouse*
 þu art loplich to biholde
 And þu art lop in monie folde
 pi bodi is schort pi *neck* speore is smal
 Grettere is pin heved pan þu al

75 pin(e) ezen beop colblake and brode
 Riht spo *then* hi peren ipeint mid pode
 þu starest so þu pille abiten
 Al pat þu miht mid chyre smiten
 pi bile is stif and scharp and hoked

78 Rih so an opel pat is croked
 þar mid þu clackest oft and longe
 And pat is on of pine songe
 Ac þu pretest to mine flesche — *dolive*
 Mid pine chlyres podest me mesche

85 þe pere icundur to one frogge
 pat sit at mulne under cogge — *Cog - ait, a wulf!*
 Snailes *Mus* and fule pihte
 Beop pine cunde and pine rihte
 þu sittest a dai and flihst a niht

90 þu cupest pat þu art on unpiht — *monwic*.

60 nev' Cot. — phat Cot. hwat Arch. — 62 wiþ Cot. and Arch. —
 muwe Arch. — frō se Cot. — 64 hwar Arch. whar Cot. — miȝt Cot.
 — vowel Arch. — 65 vor Cot. and Arch. — fuelkunne Cot. fowl-
 unne Arch. — 66 ho Cot. — honne Cot. — 67 biscrycheþ Arch.
 — bigredet Cot. — 68 biledet Cot. — 71 lodlich Cot. and Arch. —
 73 short Cot. scort Arch. — spore Cot. swere Arch. — 74 gret-
 ture Arch. — 75 eyen Arch. — boþ Cot. — 76 riȝt Cot. — so
 Arch. — ho Cot. — 78 mist Cot. — 79 sarp Arch. — 80 riȝt Cot.
 — as on Arch. — owel Cot. ewel Arch. — 81 clackes Cot. clechest
 Arch. — ev' a mong Arch. for oft and longe — 83 fleshe Cot. vley-
 sse Arch. — 84 meshe Cot. meyssse Arch. — 85 icundur Cot. — 86
 wanting in Cot. — 87 piȝte Cot. wihte Arch. — 88 boþ Cot. — riȝte
 Cot. — 89 flyst Arch. flīȝt Cot. — niȝt Cot.

þu art loplich and unclene
 Bi þine neste ich hit mene
 And ek bi þine fule brode
 þu fedest on heom a þel ful fode
 95 Pel postu þat hi dop þar innē
 Hi fulep hit up to þe chinne *example*
 Heo sittep þar so hi beo bisne
 Hyar bi men seggeþ a forbisne *example*
 Dahet habbe þat ilke best [ms. Arch. fol. 229 d]
nestfortun
 100 þat fulep his oþe nest
 þat oper ȝer a faucun bredde *breed*
 His nest noht þel he ne bihedde
 þar to þu stèle in o day
 And leidest þar on pi fule ey *ey?* [ms. Cot. fol. 233 d]
 105 po hit bicom þat he hahte
 And of his eyre briddes prahste
 He brohte his briddes mete
 Biheold his nest ise; hi ete
 He ise; bi one halve
 110 His nest ifuled uthalve *on the outside* *live p. 110*
 þe faucun pas prop pip his briddé *birds*
 And lude ȝal and sterne chidde
 Seggeþ me hpo haveþ pis ido
 Ou nas never icunde þar to *not a bird*
 115 Hit pas idon ou a lope custe
 Seggeþ me ȝif ȝe hit piste
That po cƿap þat on and cƿap þat oper
 Ipis hit pas ure oþe broper
 pat ȝeond þat haveþ þat grete heved
 120 Pai þat hit nis þar of bireved
 Peorp hit ut mid þe alre furste
 þat his necke him toberste

91 lodlich Cot. and Arch. — 94 hom Cot. — 95 wel Arch. vel Cot.
 — 97 ho Cot. — bo Cot. — 98 hwar Arch. þar (par?) Cot. — seg-
 get Cot. — 99 dehaet Arch. — 100 ope Cot. owe Arch. — 101
 faukun Cot. — 102 noȝt Cot. nowiht Arch. — 104 fole Cot. — 105
 hahte Cot. hayhte Arch. — 106 præzte Cot. wrauhete Arch. — 107 ho
 brozte Cot. heo brouhete Arch. — 108 bihold Cot. — iseyh Arch.
 111 wip Arch. pit Cot. — 112 yal Arch. — sturne Arch. — 113
 segget Cot. — po havet Cot. — 114 eu Arch. — per Arch.
 115 lop wiste Cot. — 116 sege Cot. — 117 queþ Arch. — quad
 Cot. — 118 it Cot. — oȝer Cot. owe Arch. — 119 pe ȝond Cot. þat
 yeonde Arch. — haved Cot. — 120 hi Cot. he Arch. — 121 worp
 Cot. werp Arch. — vyrste Arch. prste Cot.

þe faucun ilefde his bridde

And nom pat fule brid a midde

125 And parp hit of pan þilde boȝe

þat pie and crope hit todroȝe

Her bi men seggeþ a bispel *example*

þeȝ hit ne beo fulliche spel

Al so hit is bi pan ungode

130 þat is icumen of fule brode

And is imeind pip frēo monne

Ever he cup pat he com ponne

þat he com of pan adeleye

[ms. Arch. fol. 230a]

þeȝ he a frēo neste leie

135 þeȝ appell trendli from pon treope

addle - egg

par he and oper mide grophe

þeȝ he beo par from bicume

He cup pel hyponene he is icume [ms. Cot. fol. 234a]

þeos pard aȝaf pe nihtegale

140 And after pare longe tale

Heo song so lude and so scharpe

Riht so me grulde schille harpe

þeos ule luste piderpard

And heold hire eȝen neoperpard

145 And sat tospolle and ibolse

Al so heo hadde one frogge ispolze

For heo pel piste and pas ipar

þat heo song hire a bisemar

And no pe les heo ȝaf andspare

150 Hpi nelnu fleon into pe bare

And schepi hƿeþer unker beo

Of briþter heope of fairer bleo

- twanged

- listened

- downwärds

- bated at

- taunted

- mockery

123 levede Arch. — ibriddie Arch. — 125 bope Cot. bowe Arch. *chp.*

i. 15 — 126 todroȝe Cot. todrowe Arch. — 127 per Arch. — 128

bo Cot. — 131 meind Cot. and Arch. — pit fro Cot. — 132 penne

Arch. — 134 fro Cot. — 135 fron Cot. — pe Arch. — trope Cot.

treo' Arch. — 136 mid grope Cot. grewe Arch. — 137 bo Cot. —

138 phonene Cot. hwenene Arch. — 139 pos Cot. — niztingale Cot.

— 141 he Cot. — 142 riȝt Cot. — 143 pos hule Cot. — 144 hold

Cot. — eȝe Cot. eyen Arch. — noþerpad Cot. neþerward Arch. —

145 tosuolle Cot. — ibolye Cot. tobolewe Arch. — 146 ho Cot. —

hedde Arch. — isuolze Cot. iswolwe Arch. — 147 ho Cot. — 148

ho Cot. — 149 na Arch. — ho Cot. — andsuare Cot. ondsware

Arch. — 150 phi Cot. hwy Arch. — flon Cot. — 151 schewi Arch.

sepi Cot. — pare (pare?) Cot. for hƿeþer — bo Cot. — 152 bri-

ter Cot. briþter Arch. — hope Cot. hewe Arch. — vairur blo Cot.

of us two's

I do not like

No þu havest scharpe clape
 Ne képe ich noht pat þu me clape.

155 þu havest clivres spípe stronge
 þu tpengest þar mid so dop a tonge
þu pohtest so dop pine ilike
 Mid faire porde me bispíke
 Ich nolde don pat þu me raddest

160 Ich piste pel pat þu me misraddest
 Schamie pe for pine unrede
 Unprozen is þi spikelhede deception
 Schild þi spikeldom from pe lihte
 And hud þat poze a mong pe rihte

165 Hpanne þu pilt þin unriht spene spend
 Loke pat hit ne beo isene
 For spikeldom havep schome and hete [ms. Arch. fol.
 31 if hit is ope and underȝete underȝet [ms. Arch. fol.
 31 b]
 Ne spedestu noht mid pine unprenche wickedness
 170 For ich am par and can pel blenche steal away
 Ne helpp noht pat þu beo so priste bold
 Ich polde fihte bet mid liste [ms. Cot. fol. 234 b]
 þan þu mid alle pine strengpe datine
 Ich habbe on brede and ek on lengpe

175 Castel god on mine rise twig
 Pel fiht þat pel fiht seip pe pise
 Ac lete pe a pei peos cheste
 For spiche pordes beop unpreste - wicked
 And fo pē on mid rihte dome

180 Mid faire porde and mid isome friendly
 þe; pe ne beon at one acorde
 Pe muȝe bet mid fayre porde
 Pitute cheste and bute fihte
 Plaidi mid foȝe and mid rihte

153 pel scharpe Cot. — 154 kep Cot. — noȝt Cot. — 155 clivers
 Cot. — swiȝe Arch. suȝe Cot. — 156 tuengst Cot. — 157 poȝtest
 Cot. poutest Arch. — iliche Arch. — 158 biswike Cot. and Arch.
 — 161 schomye Arch. — þin Cot. — 162 unwryen Arch. — suikelhede
 Cot. swikehede Arch. — 163 þine Cot. — suikeldom Cot. swike-
 dom Arch. — vram Cot. — liȝte Cot. — 165 þane (pane?) Cot. —
 167 suikedom Cot. swikedom Arch. — haved Cot. — 169 sped-
 destu noȝt Cot. — þin Arch. — 171 to(?) Cot. — 172 viȝte Cot.
 — 173 al Cot. and Arch. — 174 ech Cot. — 176 fist Cot. — fist
 Cot. — 177 pos Cot. — 178 suiche Cot. suche Arch. — boþ Cot.
 — 179 riȝte Cot. — 180 some Arch. — 181 bo Cot. — 182 mawe
 Arch. — 183 pitute Cot. — 184 soȝe Arch. for foȝe

hure

185 And mai ure eiper hpat he pile
 Mid rihte segge and mid skile

Then po cpap pe ule hpo schal us seme — *sunt*
 pat cunne and pille riht us deme *judge*

"Ich pot pel' cpap pe nihtegale *reproach*

190 Ne parf par of beo no tale — *bee*
 Maister Nichole of Guldeforde

He is pis and par of porde

He is of porde spipe *gleneskilful*

And him is lop evrich unpeu — *rice*

195 He pot insiht in eche songe
 Hpo singep pel hpo singep pronge
 And he can schede from pe rihte — *darkness*
 pat poze pat puster from pe lihte

pe ule one hpile hi bipohte

200 And after pan pis pard up brohte
 Ich granti pel pat he us deme [ms. Arch. fol. 230c]
 For pe; he pere hpile *breme* *famous*

dear And leof him pere nihtegale

And oper pihte gente and smale

205 Ich pot he is *now* spipe acoled — *cool*
 Nis he for pe noxipt afoled [ms. Cot. fol. 234c]
 pat he for pine olde lufe

Me a dun legge and pe buve

Ne schaltu nevre so him cpeme

210 pat he for pe fals dom deme
 He is nu ripe and fastrede.

Ne lust him nu to none unrede *harne*

Nu him ne lust na more *pleie*

He pile gon a rihte peie

215 pe nihtegale pas al *zare* - *aware*

Heo hadde ileorned pel *aihpare* - *everything*

Ule heo seide "seie me sop

Hpi dostu pat unpihites dop

Wikeley

185 hure Cot. ur Arch. — pat hi Cot. — 187 quap Cot. and Arch.
 — pu (pu?) Cot. — 188 kunne Cot. — 190 per Arch. — bo Cot. —
 192 an Cot. — 193 dome supe Cot. — 195 euche Arch. — 196 po
 singet Cot. — 197 con Arch. — vrom Cot. — rihte Cot. — 198 lizte
 Cot. — 199 po hule Cot. — pile Cot. — bipozte Cot. — 200 brozte
 Cot. — 202 pile Cot. — 203 lof Cot. — ningale Cot. nihtingale
 Arch. — 205 supe Cot. — 206 nojt Cot. — 207 love Cot. — 208
 abuve Arch. — 209 queme Cot. and Arch. — 215 ware Arch. —
 216 ho Cot. — had Cot. hedde Arch. — ilorned Cot. — aiware Cot.
 ihware Arch. — 217 hule ho sede Cot.

Answers

þu singest a niht and noht a dai
 220 And al pi song is pai la pai
 þu miht mid pine songe afere - make afraid
 Alle pat iherep pine ibere noise
 þu schrichest and ȝollest to pine fere companion
 pat hit is grislich to ihere

225 Hit ȝincheþ bope pise and snepe foolish
 Noht pat þu singe ac pat þu ȝeþe
 þu flihst a niht and noht a dai
 þar of ich ȝndri and pel mai
 For evrich ping pat schunep riht-

230 Hit luveþ puster and hateþ liht
 And evrich ping pat luveþ misdede
 Hit luveþ puster to his dede
 A pis ȝord þe; hit beo unclene mouth
To man
a man
 Is fele manne a muþe imene

235 For Alfred king hit seide and prot [ms. Arch. fol. 230 d]
 He schunep pat hine ful pot
 Ich ȝene pat þu dost al so
 For þu flihst nihtes ever mo doubt
 And oper ping me is a pene

240 þu havest a niht pel brihte sene [ms. Cot. fol. 234d]
 Bi daie þu art stareblind
 þat þu ne sihst ne boȝ ne strind - generation
 A dai þu art blind oper bisne
 þar bi men seggeþ a forbisne

245 Riht so hit farþ bi pan ungode
 þat noht ne isihþ to none gode
 And is so ful of uvele prenchedecit
 þat him ne mai no man atprenche escape
 And can pel pane pustre pai

250 And pane brihte lat a þai
 So dop pat beop of pine cunde
 Of lihte nabbeþ hi none imunde
 þeos ule luste spipe longe

222 hereþ Arch. — 223 schirchest Cot. scrichest Arch. — 228 wndri
 Cot. and Arch. — 229 schuniet Cot. schonieþ Arch. — 230 luveþ
 Arch. — hatiet Cot. — 231 is lof Cot. for luveþ — 233 bo Cot. —
 234 monne Arch. — 236 schunet Cot. — wl Cot. — 239 an Cot.
 for and — 242 sichst Cot. syst Arch. — bouh of lind Arch. — 244
 segget Cot. — 246 sup Cot. — 248 atprenche Cot. aprenche Arch.
 — 249 þene Arch. — purste Cot. — 251 boþ Cot. — 253 pos hule
 Cot. — suþe Cot.

And pas ofteoned spipe strōnge

255 Heo c̄yap^hpu hattest nihtegale
þu mihtest bet hoten galegale *noray fellow*

For þu havest to monie tale

Lat þine tunge habbe spale *rungo ladder*

þu penest þat pes dai beo pin oze

260 Lat me nu habbe mine proze *space of leine*
Beo nu stille and lat me speke

Ich pille beon of þe apreke

And lust hu ich con me bitelle

Mid rihte soþe pipute spelle *speech*

265 þu seist þat ich me hude a dai
þar to ne segge ich no nai

And lust ich telle þe hpar fore

Al hpi hit is and hpar fore

Ich habbe bile stif and stronge [ms. Arch. fol. 231a]

270 And gode clivres scharp(e) and longe *hawke!*
So hit bicumeþ to havekes cunne

Hit is min hihte hit is mi punne

þat ich me draȝe to mine cunde *kind*

Ne mai no man þar for (me) schende [ms. Cot. fol. 235a]

275 On me hit is (ful) pel isene
For rihte cunde ich am so kene

For þi ich am lop smale fuȝele

þat fleop bi grunde and bi puvele

Hi me bichirmep and bigredep

280 And heore flockes to me ledēp
Me is leof to habbe reste

And sitte stille in mine neste

For nere ich never no þe betere

þeȝ ich mid chayling and mid chatere

285 Heom schende and mid fulle porde
So herdes dop oper mid schitporde *faulcian usage*

Ne lust me piþ þe screpen chide

254 ofteoned sup Cot. — 255 ho Cot. — attest Cot. — 259 bo Cot.
— owe Arch. — 260 prowe Arch. — 262 wile Arch. — beo Arch.
bon Cot. — 263 hw Arch. — 264 wiþute Arch. pitute Cot. — 266
nich ne Cot. nik no Arch. — 267 pare vore Cot. — 268 pi Cot. —
270 clivers Cot. clevres Arch. emp. l. 155 — 272 hihte Cot. — 274
pare vore Cot. — 276 vor riȝte Cot. — 277 foȝle Cot. vowelē Arch.
emp. l. 64 — 278 flop Cot. — an Cot. — 279 bichermet Cot. — 280
hore Cot. — 281 lof Cot. — 284 peyh Arch. þif(yif?) Cot. — chang-
ing Arch. — 285 hom Cot. — 287 wiþ Arch. pit Cot.

10

280. poem

For pi ich pende from heom pide
 Hit is a pise monne dome
 290 And hi hit seggeþ pel ilome
 þat me ne chide pip pe gide
 Ne pip pan ofne me ne ȝonie fōlkiſt
 At sume siþe herde ich telle
 Hu Alfred seide on his spelle spēen

295 Loke þat þu ne beo þare
 þar chavling beop and cheste þare
 Lat sottes chide and forþ þu go
 And ich am ȝis and do al so
 And ȝet Alfred seide an oper side

300 A pord þat is isprunge pide
 þat pip pe fule haveþ imene
 Ne cumep he never from him clene
 Penestu þat havec beo þe porsē [ms. Arch. fol. 231 b]
 þer crope bigrēdē him bi þe mershe mār dālōnē

305 And gop to him mid heore chirme
 Riht so hi pille pip him schirme noise
 þe haved folsep gode rede
 He flift his pei and lat hi grede [ms. Cot. fol. 235 b]
 ȝet þu me seist of oper pinge

310 And telst þat ich ne can noht singe
 Ac al mi reorde is ponig — wailing
 And to ihere grislich ping
 þat nis noht sop ich singe efne
 Mid fulle dremē and lude stefne voice

315 þu penest þat ech song beo grislich
 þat pine pipinge nis ilich rude
 Mi stefne is bold and noht unorne
 Heo is ilich one grete horne
 And pin is ilich one pipe — w. c. d.

320 Of one smale peode unripe
 Ich singe bet pan þu dest
 þu chaterest so dop on Irisch prest
 Ich singe an efne a rihte time

290 segget Cot. — 291 pit Cot. — 292 ȝonie Cot. — 293 i Cot.
 and Arch. — 294 sede Cot. — 296 changling Arch. — 297 vorþ Cot.
 and Arch. — 303 havek Arch. — wrse Arch. — 304 mershe Cot.
 — 305 hore Cot. — 307 folewep Arch. — 308 & flift Cot. — 309
 op' Cot. — 310 tellest Arch. — 311 rorde Cot. — 312 hire Cot.
 — 315 bo Cot. — 317 blod & noȝt Cot. — 318 ho Cot. — 320 po-
 de Cot. — 322 prost Cot. p'st Arch. — 323 eve Cot.

sext

And seoppe hpon hit is bedtime
 325 þe pridde sipe a middelnichte
 And so ich mine song adihte
 Hpone ich iseo arise feorre
 Oper dairim oper daistorre *-daystare*
 Ich do god mid mine prote

330 And parni men to heore note
 Ac þu singest alle longe niht
 From eve fort hit is dailiht *Rosteneth*
 And evre lestes pin o song
 So longe so þe niht is long *Thy*

335 And evre croþep þt precche crei
 þat he ne spikeþ niht ne. dai *de. cæwe ðn*
 Mid pine pipinge þu adunest [ms. Arch. fol. 231c]
 þas monnes earen par þu punest
 And makest pine song so unpiht *wrecked*

340 þat me ne telp of þe nopiht
joy Evrich murþe mai so longe ileste
 þat heo schal liki yel unpreste [ms. Cot. fol. 235e]
 For harpe and pipe and fuzelles song
 Mislikeþ *þif* hit is to long

345 Ne beo þe song never so murie *merri*
 þat he ne schal pinche unmuri
þef he ilestes over unpille *desperating*
 So þu miht pine song aspille
 For hit is soþ Alfred hit seide

350 And me hit mai in boke rede
Unmoder ness Evrich þing mai leosen his godhede
 Mid unmepe and mid overdede
 Mid este þu þe miht overcpatie *overpatie*
 And overfullle makeþ platie *to feel desirous*

355 And evrich murþe mai agon
pleasure *þif* me hit halt evre forþ in on
 Bute one þat is godes riche

324 soppe pon Cot. seppé hwenne Arch. — 325 ad Cot. — 327 i-
 so Cot. — veorre Arch. vorre Cot. — 328 dayewe Arch. — dai-
 sterre Cot. — 329 ic Arch. — 333 seist Cot. for lesteþ — 338 wu-
 nest Cot. and Arch. — 339 unpurþ Cot. — 340 þa Cot. — telleþ
 Arch. — par noȝ þrþ Cot. — 341 murepe Arch. — leste Arch. —
 342 ho shal Cot. — 345 nev' Cot. ne Arch. — 346 shad Cot. sal
 Arch. — 350 ine Cot. — 351 losen Cot. lesen Arch. — 353 miȝt
 Cot. maist Arch. — ov'quatie Cot. and Arch. — 354 wlatie Cot. and
 Arch. — 355 an Cot. — mureþe Cot. cmp. l. 341

alike
lame infirm

pat evre is spete and evre iliche
 þeȝ þu nimie evre of þan lepe

360 Hit is evre ful bi ~~heƿ~~^{heap} Punder hit is of godes riche
 pat evre spenþ and evre is iliche
 ȝet þu me seist on oper schome
 pat ich am on mine eȝen lome ~~lame~~

365 And seist for pat ich fleo bi nihte
 pat ich ne mai iseo bi lihte
 þu liest on me hit is isene
 pat ich habbe gode sene
 For nis no so dim pusternesse darkness

370 pat ich ever iseo þe lesses
 þu penest pat ich ne muȝe iseo
 For ich bi daie noht ne fleo [ms. Arch. fol. 231d]
 þe hare tuteþ al (þe) dai
 Ac no þe les iseo he mai

375 ȝif hundes urnep to him pard
 He gengþ þel spipe a wey pard [ms. Cot. fol. 235d]
 And hokeþ papes spipe narepe bricks
 And haveþ mid him blenches zarepe-wary
 He hupp and start spipe cove

380 And seeheþ papes to be grove
 Ne scholde he for boþe his eȝe
 So don ȝif he þe bet ne iseȝe
 Ich mai iseon so þel so on hare
 þeȝ ich bi daie sitte an dare

385 þar ahte men beop in peorre
 And fareþ boþe ner and feorre
 And overfareþ feole peode
 And doþ bi nihte gode neode

358 swete Arch. suete Cot. — 359 evere Cot. wanting in Arch. —
 oppan Cot. — 361 wunder Cot. and Arch. — 362 ev' Cot. — 363
 ȝut Cot. — an Arch. — op' shome Cot. — 364 an Cot. for am —
 eye Arch. — 365 an Cot. — flo Cot. — 366 iso be liȝte Cot. —
 367 liest? — 369 vor Cot. and Arch. — nones Cot. — pesternesse
 Arch. — 370 ev' iso Cot. — lasse Cot. — 371 mwe iseo Arch.
 miȝte iso Cot. — 372 flo Cot. — 375 eorneþ Arch. — 376 suþe a
 pai Cot. — 379 & Cot. for he — stard suþe Cot. — 381 sholde
 Cot. — bo Arch. — 382 do Arch. — ne iseye Arch. niseȝe Cot. —
 383 ison Cot. iseo Arch. — 384 a Arch. — 385 aȝte Cot. auhete
 Arch. — porre Cot. worre Arch. — 386 neor Arch. — an forre Cot.
 — 387 overvareþ Cot. and Arch. — veole Arch. fele Cot. — þode
 Cot. — 388 node Cot.

Ich folʒi þan ahte manne

390 And fleo bi nihte in heore banne
 þe nihtegale in hire pohte
 Atheold al pis and longe pohte
 Hƿat heo par after mihte segge saw
 For heo ne mihte noht alegge refute

395 þat pe ule hadde hire ised
 For heo spac boþe riht and red
 And hire ofpuhte þat heo hadde
 þe speche so feor forþ iladde
 And pas aferd þat hire anspare

400 Ne purþe noht a riht ifare
 Ac no þe les heo spac boldeliche
 For he is pis þat hardeliche
 Pip his fo berþ grete ilete cowardice
þat he for arehƿe hit ne forlete

405 For spich þorp bold ȝif þu flilst
þat pile fleo ȝif þu nispicst ~~doſt~~ not ceaſe (yield)
 ȝif he isihƿ pat þu naſt areȝ [ms. Arch. fol. 232a]
 He pile of bore purchen bareȝ
 And for þi þeȝ pe nihtegale

410 Pere aferd heo spac bolde tale [ms. Cot. fol. 236a]
 ' Ule heo seide hƿi dostu so
 þu singest a pinter po la po her
 þu singest so dop hem(ne) a snope
 Al þat heo singeþ hit is for pope

415 A pintere þu singest prope and ȝomere - muse a ble
 And evre þu art dumb a sumere
 Hit is for pine fule nipe - envy
þat þu ne miht mid us beo blipe
 For þu forbernest þel neȝ for onde - envy

420 Hƿane ure bliſſe cumeþ to londe
 þu fareſt so dop þe illeſt
 Evrich bliſſe him is unpille - þe wyr
 Grucching and luring him beop rade —

389 þane Arch. — aȝte Cot. — 390 an flo Cot. — niȝt Cot. — 393 hwat
 heo Arch. þat he Cot. — 394 vor ho Cot. — 398 for Cot. —
 399 oferd Cot. — 400 prþe noȝt a riȝt Cot. — 401 he Cot. —
 403 is vo Cot. — 404 vor areȝþe Cot. — 405 vor suich Cot. —
 406 ple flo Cot. — isuicst Cot. swykst Arch. — 407 isihƿ Cot. —
 areh Arch. — 408 prchen Cot. wurche bareh Arch. — 411 hule ho
 Cot. — hwi Arch. pi Cot. — 412 winter Arch. pint' Cot. — 416 an
 Cot. — 418 miȝt Cot. — 419 vor Cot. — þel omitted in Arch. — 420
 pane Cot. hwenne Arch. — 422 ever ich Arch. — 423 boþ Cot.

3if he iseop pat men beop glade
 425 He polde pat he iseze
 Teres in evrich monnes eze
 Ne rohte he peʒ flockes pere
 Imeind bi topes and bi here
 Al so pu dost on pire side
 430 For hpanne ~~snow~~ lip picke and ~~pide~~ until
 And alle pihtes habbeþ sorȝ
 þu singest from eve ~~fort a~~ morȝ
 Ac ich alle blisse mid me bringe
 Ech piht is glad for mine pinge
 435 And blessep hit hpanne ich cume
 And hijtep aȝen mine cume
 þe blostme ginneþ springe and sprede
 Boþe in treo and ek on mede
 þe lylie mid hire faire ~~plete~~ face
 440 Polcumeþ me pat þu hit pite
 Bid me mid hire faire bleo
 pat ich schulle to hire ~~fleo~~ [ms. Arch. fol. 232 b]
 þe rose al so mid hire rude ~~redness~~
 pat cumep ut of pe porne ~~puðer~~ [ms. Cot. fol. 236 b]
 445 Bid me pat ich schulle singe
 For hire lufe one skentinge
 And ich so do purȝ niht and dai
 þe more ich singe þe more ich mai
 And skente hi mid mine songe amuse them
 450 Ac no pe les noht overlonge with mine song
 Hpane ich iseo pat men beop glade
 Ich nelle pat hi beon to sade
 Hpane is ido for hpan ich com
 Ich fare aȝen and do pisdom - thinks
 455 Hpane mon hoȝep of his scheve -
 And falepi cūmep on grene leve
 Ich fare hom and nime leve
 Ne recche ich noht of pinteres reve time

424 isop Cot. — 426 ev' iche Arch. — 427 rohte Cot. rouhete Arch. —
 430 vor panne Cot. — 431 sorewe Arch. — 432 to a mo rewe Arch. —

435 & blissep Cot. — 437 sponge & spde Cot. — 438 in Arch. for on
 — 440 wolumeþ Cot. welcomeþ Arch. — þeyh Arch. for þat — pte
 Cot. — 444 pornewode Cot. and Arch. — 445 bit Cot. — 448 i Cot.
 — 449 an Cot. — 453 pan (pan?) Cot. hwenne Arch. — for hwian
 Arch. vor pan (pan?) Cot. — 455 hwanne Arch. pane Cot. — ho-
 wieþ Arch. — sheve Cot. — 456 falewi Cot. and Arch.

Hpane ich iseo pat cumep pat harde —

460 Ich fare hom to min(e) erde — ~~Cōunbr̄y~~
 And habbe bope luve and ~~ponc~~ ~~thankest~~
 pat ich her com and hidre ~~sponc~~
 Hpane min erende is ido

Scholde ich bileve nai hpar to

465 For he nis nofer ~~sep~~ ne ~~pis~~ ~~gay nor wise~~
 pat longe abid par him need nis
 peos ule ~~luste~~ and leide an hord

strong verb

Al pis mot pord after pord
 And after pochte hu heo mihte

470 Ansperc finde best mid rihte
 For he mot hine ful pel bipenche
 pat is aferd of ~~plaites~~ ~~prenche~~ ~~debates~~ ~~deceitful~~
 þu aischest me pe ule sede

Hpi ich a pinter singe and ~~gredē~~ *cry*

475 Hit is gode monne ipune
 And pas from pe woldre frume
 pat ech god man his freond icnōpe [ms. Arch. fol. 232 c]
 And blisse mid heom sume þroþe [ms. Cot. fol. 236 c]
 In his huse at his borde

480 Mid faire speche and faire porde
 And hure and hure to ~~cristes~~ masse *genitive*
 Hpane riche and povre more and lasse
 Singeþ cundut niht and dai *dative*
 Ich heom helpe hpat ich mai

485 And ek ich penche of oper ~~pinge~~ *! /*
 þane to pleien oper to singe
 Ich habbe her to gode anspare
 An on iredi and al þare
 For sumeres tide is al to ~~plonc~~ *? /*

490 And dōp misreken monnes ponc
 For he ne recip noht of clennesse
 Al his poht is of golnesse
 For none deor no leng nabideþ

459 pan Cot. hwanne Arch. — 462 hid' sponk Cot. — 463 hwanne Arch. pan Cot. — 464 par Cot. — 466 nod nis Cot. no need is Arch. — 469 he mijte Cot. — 470 ansuere Cot. onswere Arch. — 471 ful wel him Arch. — 473 aischest Cot. ayssest Arch. — 475 ipone Cot. ywune Arch. — 476 an Cot. — frome Cot. — 477 mon Arch. — frond Cot. frend Arch. — 478 hom Cot. — þroþe Cot. prowe Arch. cmp. l. 260 — 484 phat Cot. — 487 ansquare Cot. — 488 ware Arch. — 489 vor Cot. — 490 ponk Cot. and Arch. — 493 dor Cot. and Arch.

silver horses

16

stable

more mad

lasciviousness

Ac evnich upon oper rideþ
 495 þe sulve stottes in pe stode
 Beop boþe pilde and merepode
 And þu sulf art þar a mong
 For of golnesse is at pi song
 And aȝen þat þu pilt teme be empty
 500 þu art pel modi and pel bremesserted
 Sone so þu havest itred.
 Ne mihtu leng a pard icreþeday proud
 Ac pipeſt al so dop a mose voice
 Mid cokeringe mid stefne hose

warming

505 ȝet þu singst porse þan pe heisugge hedge sparrow,
 þat flith bi grunde a mong pe stubbe
 Hpane pi lust is ago
 þanne is pi song ago al so
 A sumere cheorles apedeþ - is mad

bellow

510 And forcrempeþ and forbredeþ corrupteth
 Hit nis for lufe no pe les [ms. Arch. fol. 232d]
 Ac is pes cheorles pode res race [ms. Cot. fol. 236d]
 For hpane he haveþ ido his dede
 Ifallen is al his boldhede

ruins

contract

515 Habbe he istunge under gore
 Ne last his lufe no lenger more
 Al so hit is on pine mode on brood
 So sone so þu sittest a brode
 þu forleost al pine pise

lorest

520 Al so þu fareſt on pine rise twig?
 Hpane þu havest ido pi góme
 pi stefne goþ an on to schome
 Ac hpane nihtes cumep longe
 And bringeþ forſtes starke and stronge

spurts

525 þanne erest hit is isene
 Hpar is pe snelle hpar pe kene
 At pan harde me mai afinde
 Hypo geþ forþ hpo hiþ bihindé

495 ine Cot. — 496 bop Cot. beþ Arch. — marewode Arch. — 498
 golnyſſe Arch. — 499 ayeyn Arch. — þet Cot. — wilt Arch. wlt Cot.
 — 502 iqueþe Cot. and Arch. — 504 chokeringe Cot. — stevne Cot.
 — 505 wrſe Arch. — pon Cot. — 506 ȝat flit̄ Cot. — 509 chor-
 les Cot. and Arch. — 510 vorcrempeþ & vorbredeþ Cot. — 512 þe
 chorles Cot. þeos cherles Arch. — 513 vor pane Cot. — 516 leng'
 Cot. — 519 forlost Cot. — 522 stevne Cot. — shome Cot. — 526
 hwar Arch. par Cot. — 527 avinde Cot.

17

Me mai iseon at bare neode
 530 Hpan me schal harde pike beode *bid*
 þanne ich am snel and pleie and singe
 And hihte me mid mi skentinge
 Of none pintre ich ne recche
 For ich nam non aspunde precche

535 And ek ich frovri fele pihte
 pat mid heom nabbed none mihte
 Hi beop hoȝful and pel arme^{measurable} *frank*
 And sechep ȝeorne to pe parme *pleasure*
 Oft ich singe for heom pe more

540 For lutli sum of heore sore bucks:
 Hu pincp pe artu ȝet inume *doct*
 Artu mid ȝihte overcume *wile*
 " Nay nay sede pe nihtegale
 þu schalt ihere an oper tale

545 ȝet nis peos speche ibroht to dome [ms. Arch. fol. 238a]
 Ac beo pel stille and lust nu to me [ms. Cot. fol. 237a]
 Ich schal mid one bare porde
 Do pat pi speche purp forporpe *be worth*
 pat nere noht riht pe ule sede

550 þu havest bicleoped al so þu bede
 And ich pe habbe ȝive anspare
 Ac ar pe to unker dome fare *cf. 110 two*
 Ich pille speke topard pe
 Al so þu speke topard me

555 And þu me anspare ȝif þu miht
 Seie me nu þu precche piht
 Is in pe eni oper note
 Bute þu havest schille prot
 þu nart noht to non oper pinge

560 Bute þu canst of chateringe
 For þu art lutel and unstrong

529 node Cot. — 530 pan Cot. — shal Cot. — bode Cot. — 533
 wintre Arch. pint'e Cot. — 534 aswunde Arch. asunde Cot. — 535
 froveri Arch. — vele pihte Cot. — 536 hom nabbed Cot. — 537
 boȝ hoȝfule & vel Cot. houȝful Arch. — 538 an Cot. — ȝorne Cot.
 yorne Arch. — pen Arch. — 539 ofte Arch. — hom Cot. hem Arch.
 — 541 ȝut Cot. — 544 on Arch. — 546 bo Cot. be Arch. — pel
 not in Arch. — 548 wrþ Arch. prht Cot. — forwurpe Arch. — 549
 noht riht Cot. — 550 bicleoped Cot. bicleped Arch. — 551 an Cot.
 — 552 unk' Cot. — 553 wile Arch. — 555 ansuare Cot. onswere
 Arch. — if Arch. — 556 sey Arch. — 559 op' Cot. and Arch.

rule

And nis pi rezel nōpih long
 Hpat dostu godes ā mong manne
 Na mo pene dep a precche pranne
 565 Of pe ne cumeþ non oper göd
 Bute þu greden spich þu beo pod
 And beo pi piping overgo
 Ne beop on pe craftes na mo
 Alfred sede pat pas pis

570 He mihte pel for sop hit is
 Nis no man for his bare songe
 Leof ne purp noht spipe lēnge
 For pat is a forporpe man
 pat bute singe noht ne can

575 þu nart bute on forporpe ping
 On pe nis bute chatering
 þu art dim and of fule heope *sorly*
 And þinchest a lutel goti cleope *- clear*
 þu nart fair ne þu nart strong [ms. Arch. fol. 233 b]

580 Ne þu nart picke ne þu nart long [ms. Cot. fol. 237 b]
 þu havest imist al of fairhede
 And lutel is al pi godhede
 An oper ping of pe ich mene
 þu nart fair ne þu nart clene

585 Hpane þu comest to manne hāze *- pleasure*
 par bornes beop and ris idræze
 Bi hegge and bi picke peode
 par men gop oft to heore neode
 par to þu draȝst par to þu punest

590 And oper clene stede þu schunest
 Hpan ich fleo nihtes after muse
 Ich mai pe finde at pe rumhuse

562 ryel Arch. — no ping Cot. and Arch. —
 563 monne Cot. and Arch. —
 564 pe Cot. — dop Arch. — percche Cot. — wrenne Arch. — 566
 swich Arch. suich Cot. — bo Cot. be Arch. — 569 seyde Arch.
 — wes Arch. — 571 mon Arch. — is Cot. — 572 prp Cot. wrp
 Arch. — noȝt supe Cot. — 573 vor Cot. and Arch. — furwrpe Arch.
 — 574 noȝt Cot. naht Arch. — 575 o furwrpe Arch. — 577 heowe
 Arch. hope Cot. — 578 litel Arch. — clope Cot. clewe Arch. — 579
 fayr Arch. — no Cot. — 580 pikke Arch. — 581 al not in Arch.
 — 582 an Cot. — al not in Arch. — godesde Cot. — 584 vair Cot.
 feyr Arch. — 585 pane Cot. hwanne Arch. — monne hāwe Arch.
 — 586 idrawe Arch. — 587 weode Arch. pode Cot. — 588 hore
 node Cot. — 589 draust Arch. — pnest Cot. wenst Arch. — 590
 stude Arch. — 591 niȝtes Cot. nyghts Arch. — 592 i Cot. — vinde
 Cot. and Arch. — ate rūhuse Cot.

my
man's

A mong pe peode a mong pe netle
 Du sittest and singst bihinde pe setle

595 par me mai pe ilomest finde *throw*
 par men peorpep hore bihinde
 Jet pu atpitest me mine mete
 And seist pat ich fule pihtes ete
 Ac hpat etestu pat pu ne liȝe

600 Bute attercoppe and fule fiȝe
 And purmes ȝif pu miht finde
 A mong pe folde of harde rinde
 Jet ich can do pel gode pike
 For ich can loke manne pike *office*

605 And mine pike beoþ pel gode
 For ich helpe to manne fode
 Ich can nimen mis at berne *in barn*
 And ek at chirche in pe derne *house*
 For me is leof to cristes huse *dark*

610 To clansi hit pip fule muse
 Ne schal par nevre cume to *cathing*
 Ful piht ȝif ich hit mai ifo-~~fe~~
 And ȝif me lust on mi skentinge [ms. Arch. fol. 238 c]
 To pernen oper puninge [ms. Cot. fol. 237 c]

615 Ich habbe at ~~wude~~ treon pel grete
 Mid picke boȝe no þing blete *a muese went*
 Mid ivi grene al bigrope *no habitaun*
 pat evre stont iliche iblope *Kel*
 And his heou never ne forleost

620 Hyan hit sniup ne hyan hit freost
 par in ich habbe god ihold
 A pintre parm a sumere cold
 Hyane min hus stont briht and grene

593 pode Cot. wede Arch. — 595 pe may Arch. — 596 porþeþ
 Cot. worþeþ Arch. — heore Arch. — 597 yet Arch. — atwitest Arch.
 atuitest Cot. — 599 lye Arch. — 600 vlyze Cot. vlyze Arch. — 601
 wurmes Arch. purmes Cot. — miȝte finde Cot. myht fynde Arch. —
 602 volde Cot. and Arch. — 604 monne Arch. — 606 uode Cot.
 and Arch. — 607 nimē Cot. nime Arch. — 608 churche Arch.
 ine Cot. — 611 come Cot. — 612 ivo Arch. do ivo Cot. — 613 an
 Cot. — one Cot. — 614 wunyng Arch. pnienge Cot. — 615 wode
 Arch. — tron Cot. — pel not in Arch. — 616 bowe Arch. — 617
 g'ne Arch. — 619 hou Cot. — nev' Cot. and Arch. — vorleost Arch.
 vorlost Cot. — 620 pan Cot. hwanne Arch. — snywe Arch. — frost
 Cot. and Arch. — 621 inne ic Arch. — 622 wint' Arch. pint' Cot.
 — 623 pane (pane?) Cot. þane Arch. — briȝt Cot.

2nd person

Of pine nis nocht isene
 625 Jet pu me ~~felst~~ of oper pingē
 Of mine briddes seist gabbinge - *lyer*
 pat heore nest nis noht clene
 Hit is fele oper pihte imene
 For hors a stable and oxe a stalle

630 Dop al pat heom pule par falle
 And lutive childre in pe ~~cradle~~
 Bope cheorles and ek ~~apele~~ noble
 Dop al pat in heore ~~þe~~oþepe - youth
 pat hi forletep in heore duþepe - power

635 Hpat can pat songling hit bihede
 Jif hit misdep hit mot nede
 A forbisne is of olde ifurne
 pat neode makep old pif urne - ?
 And jet ich habbe an oper andspare

640 Piltu to mine neste fare
 And loki hu hit is idh̄t
 Jif pu art pis leorn̄y pu miht
 Mi nest is holz and rum a midde
 So hit is softest mine briddes - spacious

645 Hit is ibroiden alk abule
 From pe neste feor pipute
 par to hi ~~gop~~ to heore neode - past part +
 Ac hpat pu menest ich heom forbeode [ms. Cot. fol. 237d]
 Pe nimē ~~þēmē~~ of manne bure ms. Arch. fol. 233d]

650 And after þān pe makep ure + ?
 Men habbep a mong opere ipende
 A rumhus at heore bures ende
 For pat hi nellep to feor go
 And mine briddes dop al so

624 no ping Cot. — 625 op' Cot. and Arch. — 627 noȝt Cot. nouȝt Arch. — 628 fale Cot. and Arch. — op' piȝte Cot. — 629 vor Cot. and Arch. — 630 bop Cot. for dop — wile Arch. — valle Arch. — 631 children Cot. — 632 chorles an Cot. — 633 ȝoeþe Cot. youþe Arch. — 634 duhþe Arch. — 635 hwat Arch. pat Cot. — 636 mod Cot. — 637 vorbisne Cot. and Arch. — iwrne Cot. iwurne Arch. — 638 node Cot. — eorne Arch. — 640 vare Cot. and Arch. — 641 hw Arch. — 642 leorn̄y Arch. lorni Cot. — mist Arch. mijst Cot. — 643 holeuh Arch. — 645 ibroyde Arch. broiden Cot. — 646 vrom Cot. and Arch. — veor Arch. vor Cot. — 647 god Cot. — hore node Cot. — 648 hom Cot. — forbode Cot. and Arch. — 649 yemenymē Arch. — 650 makiep Arch. — 651 habbet Cot. — op' Cot. — 652 rūhus Cot. — 653 vor Cot. and Arch. — veor Arch. vor Cot.

655 Sitte nu stille chaterestre
challcrem
 Nere þu never ibunde fastre
 Her to ne findestu never andspare
 Hong up þin ax nu þu miht fare
 þe nihtegale at pissem porde

660 Pas pel neȝ ut of rede iporþe
 And pohte ȝeorne on hire mode
 ȝif heo oht elles understode
 ȝif heo cupe oht bute singe
 þat mihte helpe to oper pinge

665 Her to heo moste andspere finde
 Oper mid alle beon bihindre
 And hit is spīe strong to fīhte
 Aȝen sop and aȝen rihte
 He mot gon to al mid ginne

670 Hyan þe heorte beop on pinne
 And pe man mot oper segge
 He mot bihemmen and bilegge *hem are inel*
 ȝif muþ ƿipute mai bipreο
 þat me pe heorte noht niseo

675 And sone mai a pard misreke
 þar muþ schal aȝen heorte speke
 And sone mai a pard missteorte
 þar muþ schal speken aȝen heorte
 Ac no pe les ȝet upē pon

680 Her is to red hƿo hine con
 For never nis pit so kene. *never is art so keen*
 So hpane red him is a penedout *cummingnes* [ms. Cot. fol. 238 a]
 þanne erest cumep his ȝephede [ms. Arch. fol. 234 a]
 Hpone hit is alre mest on drede

685 For Alfred seide of olde cynde — *Aa. j. g.*
 And ȝut hit nis of heorte islide

656 vastre *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 659 niȝtingale *Cot.* — 660 neyh *Arch.*
 — 661 poȝte ȝorne *Cot.* pouhþte yorne *Arch.* — 662 oȝt *Cot.* ouht
Arch. — 663 ho kuþe oȝt *Cot.* — 665 vinde *Cot.* vynde *Arch.* —
 666 bon *Cot.* — 667 suþe *Cot.* omitted in *Arch.* — 668 ayeyn soþe
Arch. — 670 horte *Cot.* and *Arch.* — bop *Cot.* — pinne *Cot.* and
Arch. — 671 on oper *Cot.* — 673 biwreo *Arch.* bipro *Cot.* — 674
 horte *Cot.* and *Arch.* — noȝt niso *Cot.* — 676 horte *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — 677 missorte *Cot.* missurte *Arch.* — 678 horte *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — 679 ȝut *Cot.* hyet *Arch.* — 680 kon *Cot.* — 681 vor nev' *Cot.*
 and *Arch.* — 682 pane *Cot.* hwanne *Arch.* — wene *Arch.* — 683
 kumed *Cot.* — 685 quide *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 686 ȝut *Cot.* hyet *Arch.*
 — horte *Cot.* and *Arch.*

destruction

Hpone pe bale is alre hecst remedy
 þonne is pe bote alre necst next
 For pit pest a mong his sore — grief

690 And for his sore hit is pe more
 For pi nis nevre mon redles
 Ar his heorte beo pitles
 Ac ȝif pat he forleost his pit
 þonne is his redpurs al toslit

695 ȝif he ne con his pit atholde
 Ne fint he red in one folde
 For Alfred seide pat pel cupe
 Evre he spac mid sope muþe
 Hpone pe bale is alre hecst

700 þanne is pe bote alre necst
 Pe nihtegale al hire hoþe
 Mid rede hadde pel bitoþe
 A mong pe harde a mong pe tohte
 Ful pel mid rede hire bipohte

705 And hadde andspere gode ifunde
 A mong al hire harde stunde
 Ule þu axest me heo seide
 ȝif ich con eni oper dede
 Bute singen in sume tide

710 And bringe blisse feor and pide
 Hpi axestu of craftes mine
 Betere is min on þan alle pine
 Betere is o song of mine muþe
 þan al pat evre pi cun cuþe

715 And lust ich telle pe hpar fore
 Postu to hpan man pas ibore [ms. Cot. fol. 238 b]
 To pare blisse of heoveneriche
 þar ever is song and murþe iliche [ms. Arch. fol. 234 b]
 þider fundep evrich man

687 pone *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — hekst *Arch.* — 688 penne *Arch.*
 — nest *Arch.* — 689 vor pit pest *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 690 & *Arch.*
 an *Cot.* — 691 nev'e *Cot.* nev' *Arch.* — 692 horte *Cot.* and *Arch.* —
 693 if *Arch.* — pat not in *Arch.* — forlost *Cot.* furleost *Arch.* —
 694 penne *Arch.* — 695 kon *Cot.* — 696 vint *Cot.* vynt *Arch.* —
 volde *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 697 kuþe *Cot.* — 700 nest *Cot.* next *Arch.*
 — 708 toþte *Cot.* — 707 ho *Cot.* — 710 veor *Arch.* for *Cot.* — 712
 beter *Arch.* — 714 kun kuþe *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 715 hwar *Arch.*
 pare *Cot.* — vore *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 716 hwan *Arch.* pan *Cot.* — 717
 hoveneriche *Cot.* heveriche *Arch.* — 718 murehþe *Arch.* — 719 þid' *Cot.*

720 þat eni ping of gode can
 For pi me singþ in holi chirche
 And clerkes ginneþ songes pirche
 þat man ipenche bi þe songe
 Hyder he schal and par beon longe

725 þat he pe murȝþe ne forȝete
 Ac par of þenche and biȝete
 And nime ȝeme of chirche stevene
 Hu murie is þe blisse of hevene
 Clerkes munekes and canunes

730 par beop þeos gode piketunes
 Ariseþ up to middelnichte
 And singeþ of pon hevenelihte
 And preostes upe londe singeþ
 Hƿane þe liht of daie springeþ

735 And ich heom helpe hyat ich mai
 Ich singe mid heom niht and dai
 And heo beop alle for me þe gladdere
 And to pe songe beop þe raddere
 Ich parni men to heore gode

740 þat hi beon blipe on heore mode
 And bidde þat hi moten iseche
 þan ilche song þat ever is eche
 Nu þu miht ule sitte and clinge
 Her a mong nis no chateringe

745 Ich graunti þat pe go to dome
 Tofore pe sulve pope of Rome
 Ac abid ȝete no pe les
 þu schalt ihere an oper pes ~~for~~ ⁱⁿ a þurh
 Ne schaltu for (al) Engelond

750 At þisse porde me atstonde [ms. Cot. fol. 238c]
 Hpi atpitestu me mine unstrengþe
 And mine ungrete and mine unlengþe
 And seist þat ich nam noht strong
 For ich nam noþer gret ne long [ms. Arch. fol. 234c]

755 Ac þu nost never hƿat þu menst

724 pid' Cot. — bon Cot. hen Arch. — 727 stefne Arch. — 728
 hovene Cot. — 730 bop þos Cot. — picketunes Cot. — 732 þe
 hovenelihte Cot. — 735 ic Arch. — þat i Cot. — 736 hom Cot. hem
 Arch. — 737 an ho bop Cot. — 739 here Cot. — 740 hore Cot. —
 741 bidden Arch. — 742 þat Arch. — ilke Cot. — 746 sulfe Cot.
 — 748 bles Arch. by a later hand — 751 pi atuitestu Cot. — 753
 am Arch. — 754 vor Cot.

Bute lese yordes þu me lenst
 For ich can craft and ich can liste
 And par fore ich am þus priste
 Ich can pit and song manteine
 760 Ne triste ich to non(e) oper maine
 For soþ hit is þat seide Alfred
 Ne mai no strengþe aȝen red
 Oft spet pel a lute liste
 þar muche strengþe solde miste
 765 Mid lutle strengþe þurȝ ginne
 Castel and burȝ me mai ipinne
 Mid liste me mai yalles felle
 And peorpe of horse cnihtes snelle
 Uvel strengþe is lutel purþ
 770 Ac pisdom ne purþ never unpurþ
 þu miht iseo purh alle þing
 þat pisdom naveþ non evening
 An hors is strengur þan a mon
 Ac for hit non iþit ne con
 775 Hit berþ on rugge grete semes
 And draȝþ bi speore grete temes
 And poleþ boþe ȝerd(e) and spure
 And stont iteid at mulne dure
 And hit dep þat mon hit hot
 780 And for þan þat hit no pit not
 Ne mai his strengþe hit ischilde
 þat hit nabuȝþ pe lutle childe
 Mon dep mid strengþe and mid yitte
 þat oper þing nis non his fitte
 785 þeȝ alle strengþe at one yere
 Monnes pit ȝet more yere [ms. Cot. fol. 238d]
 For pe mon mid his crafte
 Overcumeþ al eorþliche schafte [ms. Arch. fol. 234d]
 Al so ich do mid mine one songe

757 ic Arch. — kan Cot. — 758 þare vore Cot. — 760 ic Arch. —
 op' Cot. — 764 sholde Cot. — myste Arch. — 765 þureh Arch. —
 766 bureh Arch. — 767 walles Arch. palle Cot. — 768 porpe Cot.
 werpe Arch. — knyhtes Arch. kniȝtes Cot. — 769 wrþ Arch. —
 770 wisdom Arch. — wrþ nev' unwrþ Arch. — 771 myht Arch. l.
 770 and 771 are wanting in Cot. — 776 draȝþ Arch. — bi sweore
 Arch. bi vore Cot. — 778 iteyed Arch. — 779 doþ Arch. — 781
 strenþe Cot. — 785 yere Cot. and Arch. — 787 vor Cot. and Arch.
 — 788 orþliche shafte Cot. — 789 ic Arch.

790 Bet þan þu al þe ȝer longe
 For mine crafte men me luvieþ
 For pine strengþe men þe schunieþ
 Telstu bi me þe purs for þan
 þat ich bute anne craft ne can

795 ȝif tƿeie men gop to prastlinge
 And eiper oþer faste þringre
 And þe on can spenges spiþe fele
 And can his prenches pel forhele
 And þe oþer ne can speng bute anne

800 And þe is god ƿip eche manne
 And mid þon one leip to grunde
 Anne after oþer a lutle stunde
 Hƿat þarf he recche of mo spenge
 Hƿone þe on him is spo genge

805 þu seist þat þu canst fele pike
 Ac ever ich am þin unilike
 Do pine craftes alle to gadere
 ȝet is min on heorte betere
 Oft hƿan hundes foxes driveþ

810 þe cat ful pel him sulve liveþ
 þe, he ne cunne prench bute anne
 þe fox so godne ne can nanne
 þe, he cunne so fele prenche
 þat he penþ eche hunde atþrenche

815 For he can papes rihte and ƿoȝe
 And he can hongi bi þe boȝe
 And so forleost þe hund his fore
 And turnþ aȝen eft to þan more
 þe fox can creope bi þe heie

820 And turne ut from his forme ƿeie [ms. Cot. fol. 239 a]
 And eft sone cume þar to
 þonne is þes hundes smel fordo [ms. Arch. fol. 235 a]

790 all Arch. for al þe — 794 ic Arch. — enne Arch. — 795 tueie
 Cot. twey Arch. — wrastlinge Arch. praslinge Cot. — 796 & Arch.
 an Cot. — 797 swipe Arch. suþe Cot. — 798 kan Cot. and Arch.
 — 799 but Cot. — 801 þan Arch. — 803 hwat Arch. pat Cot. —
 a mo Cot. — 804 so Arch. — 805 þe Cot. and Arch. — 806 un-
 yliche Arch. — 808 heorte Arch. horte Cot. — 809 ofte Arch. —
 hwan Arch. pan Cot. — 810 kat Cot. and Arch. — 811 þeh Arch.
 — 813 pey Arch. pe Cot. — vele Cot. — 814 atþrenche Cot. and
 Arch. — 815 vor Cot. and Arch. — wowe Arch. — 816 kan Cot.
 bowe Arch. — 817 forlost Cot. vorlest Arch. — 819 vox kan
 Cot. — creope Cot. crepe Arch. — 822 þenne Arch. — þe Cot.

He not purh þe imeinde smak
 Hƿeþer he schal forþ þe a bak
 825 ȝif þe fox mist of al þis dþole
 At þan ende he creoppþ to hole
 Ac na þe les mid alle his prencha
 Ne can he hine so bipenche
 þeȝ he beo ȝep and spipe snel
 830 þat he ne leost his rede fel
 þe cat ne can prench bute enne
 Noper bi dune ne bi fenne
 Bute he can climbe spipe pel
 þar mid he pereþ his greie fel
 835 Al so ich segge bi me seolve
 Betere is min on þan pine tƿelve
 Abid abid pe ule seide
 þu gest al to mid spikelhede
 Alle pine pordes þu bileyist
 840 þat hit pincþ sop al þat þu seist
 Alle pine pordes beop isliked
 And so bisemed and biliked
 þat alle peo þat hi afop
 Hi ƿeneþ þat þu segge sop
 845 Abid abid me schal pe ȝene
 Nu hit schal purþe pel isene
 þat þu havest muchel iloȝe
 Hƿone pi lesing beop unproȝe
 þu seist þat þu singest mancunne
 850 And techest heom þat hi fundieþ heonne
 Up to þe songe þat evre ilest
 Ac hit is alre pundre mest
 þat þu darst liȝe so opeliche
 Penest þu hi bringe so lihtliche [ms. Cot. fol. 239 b]
 855 To godes riche al singinde
 Nai nai hi schule pel afinde [ms. Arch. fol. 235 b]

823 þurs Cot. — 824 vorþ Arch. avorþ Cot. — bak Cot. for a bak
 — 825 dwele Arch. — 826 cropp Cot. — 830 lost Cot. — vel Cot.
 and Arch. — 831 kat Arch. — kan Cot. — anne Cot. — 832 venne
 Cot. and Arch. — 835 mi Cot. my Arch. — solve Cot. — 836 beter
 Arch. — twelve Arch. — 837 ule Cot. and Arch. — 838 swikelhede
 Arch. spikelede Cot. — 841 boþ Cot. — 843 þo Cot. heo Arch. —
 avorþ Cot. and Arch. — 846 þu Cot. for nu — shal prþe Cot. wrþe
 Arch. — 847 ilowe Arch. — 848 unwrowe Arch. — 849 singist Cot.
 — 850 hom Cot. — honne Cot. — 852 wundre Arch. pnder Cot.
 — 855 singinge Cot. — 856 shulle Cot. — avinde Cot.

þat hi mid longe pope mote
 Of heore sunnen bide bote
 Ar hi mote ever cume pare
 860 Ich rede þi pat men beo pare
 And more pepe þane singe
 þat fundeþ to pan heovenkinge
 For nis no man wiputen sunne
 For þi he mot ar he wende heonne
 865 Mid teres and mid pope bete
 þat him beo sur þat er wæs spete
 þar to ich helpe god hit wot
 Ne singe ich heom no foliot
 For al mi song is of longinge
 870 And imewind sum del mid poninge
 þat mon bi me hine wipenche
 þat he groni for his unþrenche
 Mid mine songe ich hine wulte
 þat he groni for his gulte
 875 ƿif þu gest her of to disputinge
 Ich pepe bet þane þu singe
 ƿif riht wop forw and a bak wrong
 Betere is mi wop þane ƿi song
 ƿeȝ sume men beon purhut gode
 880 And purhut clene on heore mode
 Heom longeþ heonne no ƿe les
 þat (hi) beoþ her wæs is heom ƿes
 For ƿeȝ hi beon heom seolve iborȝe
 Hi ne seow her wopw bute sorȝe
 885 For oper men hi wepeþ sore
 And for heom biddeþ cristes ore
 Ich helpe monne on eiper halve
 Mi muþ haveþ tƿeire cunne salwe [ms Cot. fol. 239 c]
 þan gode ich fulste to longinge
 890 For wpan hin longeþ ich him singe [ms. Arch. fol. 235 c]

860 beo ware Arch. bo ȝare Cot. — 862 hovenkinge Cot. hevene-
 kinge Arch. — 863 wiputen Arch. pitute Cot. — 864 honne Cot.
 — 868 ih hom Cot. — 869 my Arch. me Cot. — 870 an imewnd Cot.
 — 872 grony Arch. — 876 pan Arch. — 877 riȝt Cot. — 879 bo
 purȝut Cot. — 881 heō Arch. hon Cot. — 882 bop Cot. — hom
 Cot. and Arch. — 883 solve Cot. selwe Arch. — iborewe Arch. —
 884 wopw Cot. — bote Cot. and Arch. — sorpe Cot. serewe Arch.
 — 890 vor Cot. and Arch. — pan Cot. hwenne Arch. — hī lōgeþ
 ic hī Arch.

And pan sunfulle ich helpe al spo
 For ich him teche hƿare is po
 ȿet ich þe ȝene in oper pise
 For hƿane þu sittest on þine rise
 895 þu draȝ(e)st men to flesches luste
 þat pileþ þine songes luste
 Al þu forleost þe murȝþe of hevene
 For par to navestu none stevene
 Al þat þu singst is of golnesse
 900 For nis on þe non holinesse
 Ne ƿeneþ na man for þi pipinge
 þat eni preost in chirche singe
 ȿet ich þe pile an oper segge
 ȝif þu hit const a riht bilegge
 905 Hƿi nultu singe an oper peode
 Hƿar hit is muchele more neode
 þu never ne singest in Irlonde
 Ne þu ne cumest noht in Scotlonde
 Hƿi nultu fare to Norþeie
 910 And singen men of Galeþeie
 þar beoþ men þat lutel cunne
 Of songe þat is bineoþe þe sunne
 Hƿi nultu þare preoste singe
 And teche of þire pritelinge
 915 And ƿisi heom mid þire stevene
 Hu engles singeþ in þe hevene
 þu farest so dop an idel yel
 þat springeþ bi burne þat is snel
 And let fordruȝe þe dune
 920 And floþeþ on idel par a dune

892 pare *Cot.* hwar *Arch.* — 893 ic *Arch.* — yene on *Arch.* — 895
 fleses *Cot.* fleyseyse *Arch.* *cmp.* l. 1388 — 896 wileþ *Arch.* plleþ *Cot.*
 — 897 forlost *Cot.* vorleost *Arch.* — hovene *Cot.* — 901 wenep
Arch. pened *Cot.* — 902 preost *Cot.* and *Arch.* — chirce *Cot.* —
 903 i *Cot.* ic *Arch.* — wile *Arch.* pulle *Cot.* — oder *Cot.* — 905
 whi *Arch.* pi *Cot.* — oder þeode *Cot.* — 906 par *Cot.* — 907 nev'
Arch. neav' *Cot.* — singst *Cot.* — 908 noȝt *Cot.* — 909 hpi *Cot.*
 hwi *Arch.* — Norweye *Arch.* Norepeie *Cot.* — 910 singin *Cot.* — 911
 beod *Cot.* — þ *Cot.* — kunne *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 912 bineode *Cot.*
 under *Arch.* — be omitted in *Arch.* — 913 pi *Cot.* — 914 & *Arch.*
 an *Cot.* — 915 hom *Cot.* — stefne *Arch.* — 916 engeles *Cot.*
 singed ȝine heovene *Cot.* — 917 doð *Cot.* — ydcl *Cot.* — 918 þ
Arch. þar *Cot.* — 919 fordruȝe *Arch.* fordruȝe *Cot.* — 920 floþþ
Arch. floh *Cot.*

Ac ich fare boþe norþ and suþ
 In everich londe ich am cup [ms. Cot. fol. 239d]
 East and pest feor and ner

Ich do pel faire mi mester [ms. Arch. fol. 235d]

925 And þarni men mid mine bere
 þat pi dƿeolesong heo ne forlere
 Ich ƿisse men mid mine songe
 þat hi ne sunegi noþiht longe
 Ich bidde heom þat heo ispike

930 þat (heo) heom seolve ne bisþike
 For betere is þat heo ƿepen here
 þan elles hƿar beon deovlene fere
 þe nihtegale pas agromed
 And ek heo pas sum del ofschomed

935 For þe ule hire atþiten hadde
 In hƿiche stude heo sat and graddz
 Bihinde þe bure a mong þe ƿeode
 Hƿar men goþ to heore neode
 And sat sum del and heo bipohte

940 And piste pel on hire þohte
 þat prappe binimeþ monnes red
 For hit seide þe king Alfred
 Selde endep pel þe lope
 And selde plaideþ pel þe proþe

945 For prappe meinþ þe heorte blod
 þat hit floþep so ƿilde flod
 And al þe heorte overgeþ
 þat heo haveþ no ƿing bute breþ
 And so forleost al hire liht

950 þat heo ne sihþ sop ne riht
 þe nihtegale hi understod

921 souþ Arch. sop Cot. — 922 ev' ich Arch. ev' euch Cot. —
 cuuþ Cot. — 923 neor Cot. and Arch. — 924 i Cot. and Arch. —
 meoster Cot. — 926 dwelesong Arch. — heo Cot. and Arch. — 929
 hom Cot. — 932 hƿar Cot. hƿar Arch. — to beon Cot. and Arch.
 — yvere Arch. — 933 nihtingale Cot. — igremet Cot. — 934 of-
 chamed Cot. — 935 hule Cot. — 936 hwiche Arch. hƿucche Cot.
 — he Cot. ho Arch. — 937 wede Cot. and Arch. — 938 hƿar Arch.
 par Cot. — god Cot. — here Cot. — neode Cot. and Arch. — 939
 & Arch. an Cot. — & Cot. and Arch. — 941 þe Cot. and Arch. —
 943 sele ended Cot. — 944 plaideþ Cot. — 945 horte Cot. — 947
 heorte Cot. and Arch. — 948 naveþ Arch. — 949 vorleost Arch. —
 liht Cot. lyht Arch. — 950 syhþ Arch. sif Cot. — sod Cot.

And overgan let hire mod
 He mihte bet speken a sele
 þan mid þrappe yordes dele

955 Ule heo seide lust nu hider
 þu schalt falle þe yei is slider [ms. Cot. fol. 240 a]
 þu seist ich fleo bihinde bure
 Hit is riht þe bur is ure our [ms. Arch. fol. 236 a]
 þar laverd liggeþ and lavedi

960 Ich schal heom singe and sitte bi
 Penstu þat yise men forlete
 For fule fenne þe rihte strete
 Ne (þe) sunne þe later schine
 þeȝ hit beo ful ine neste pine

965 Scholde ich for one hole brede
 Forlete mine rihte stede
 þat ich ne singe bi þe bedde
 þar loverd haveþ his leove ibedde
 Hit is mi riht hit is mi laȝe

970 þat to þe hecste ich me draȝe
 Ac ȝef þu ȝelpst of pine songe
 þat þu canst ȝolle proþe and stronge
 And seist þu pisest mancunne
 þat hi bipepen heore sunne

975 Scholde euch mon yoni and grede
 Riht spich hi peren unlede
 Scholde hi ȝollen al so þu dest
 Hi mihte afere heore preost
 Man schal beo stille and noht grede

980 He mot bipepe his misdede
 Ac hƿar is cristes heriinge
 þar me schal grede and lude singe
 Nis noþer to lud ne to long

952 lette Cot. and Arch. cmp. l. 8 and 1097 — 953 i sele Arch.
 — 954 deale Cot. — 955 ule Arch. hule Cot. — 959 loverd Arch.
 — levedy Arch. — 961 wise Arch. vise Cot. — 962 vor Arch. —
 venne Cot. and Arch. — riztta Cot. — 963 shine Cot. — 964 bo
 Cot. — 965 sholde Cot. — 966 furlete Arch. — rizte stude Cot. —
 968 love Cot. lavedi Arch. — bedde Arch. — 969 riȝt Cot. — 970
 hecst Cot. hexte Arch. — 971 ȝef (ȝet?) Cot. if Arch. — 973 wisest
 Arch. visest Cot. — mankunne Cot. monkunne Arch. — 974 hore
 Cot. — 975 solde Cot. — wonie Cot. and Arch. — 976 riȝt suich
 Cot. such Arch. — 977 solde Cot. — 978 miȝte oferen here brost
 Cot. — 979 bo Cot. — noȝt Cot. — 981 par (par?) Cot. þar Arch.
 — 982 shal Cot.

At rihte time chirchesong

985 þu ȝolst and ȝonest and ich singe
 þi stefne is pop and min skentinge
 Ever mote þu ȝolle and ȝepen
 þat þu þi lif mote forleten
 And ȝollen mote þu so heȝe

990 þat ut berste bo þin(e) eȝe [ms. Cot. fol. 240b]
 Hƿeþer is betere of tƿere tƿom
 þat mon beo bliþe oþer grom [ms. Arch. fol. 236b]
 So beo hit ever in unker sipe
 þat þu beo sori and ich bliþe

995 ȝet þu aischest hƿi ich ne fare
 Into oþer londe and singe þare
 No hƿat scholde ich a mong hƿeom do
 þar never blisse ne com to
 þat lond nis god ne hit nis este

1000 Ac pildernisse hit is and peste ~~isolate~~
 Cnarres and cludes heovene tengen ~~heaven~~ ~~isaching~~
~~rock~~ ~~craze~~ Snow and hazel heom is genge —
 þat lond is gr̄lich and unfelih ~~hail~~
 þe men beop ƿilde and unisele ~~unsele~~

1005 Hi nabbeþ noþer ȝrib ne sibbe
 Hi ne reccheþ (nevre) hu hi libbe
 Hi eteþ fisch and flesch unsode ~~uncorked~~
 Spich ƿulves hadde hit tobrodæ ~~terend~~
 Hi drinkeþ milc and hƿeiþpar to

1010 ~~know~~ ~~not~~ 1010 Hi nuteþ elles hƿat hi do
 Hi nabbeþ noþer ȝin ne beor ~~hail~~
 Ac libbeþ al so ƿilde deor ~~arum~~
~~comend~~ 1010 Hi gop hituht mid ruȝe felle ~~hail~~
 Riht spich hi comen ut of helle

1015 þeȝ eni god man to heom come

984 riȝte Cot. — 985 wonest Arch. pones Cot. — 986 stevene
 Cot. — 991 peþer Cot. — tweyre Arch. — 992 bo Cot. — 995 yet
 Arch. ȝut Cot. — aischest pi Cot. — 996 op' Cot. — 997 pat sholde
 Cot. — hom Cot. — 1000 wildernesse Arch. — 1001 knarres & Cot.
 and Arch. — hovene Arch. hoven Cot. — tinge Cot. and Arch. —
 1002 hawel Arch. — 1003 unvele Cot. and Arch. — 1004 bop' Cot.
 — unsele Arch. — 1007 fihs an flehs Cot. fys & fleys Arch. — 1008
 suich Cot. — hit hadde Cot. and Arch. — 1009 pei Cot. bwey Arch.
 — 1010 nute Cot. — pat Cot. — 1011 noþ Cot. noht Arch. — bor
 Cot. — 1012 dor Cot. — 1013 bitiȝt Cot. — rowe Arch. — velle
 Cot. — 1014 riȝt suich Cot. suych Arch. — 1015 hom Cot.

So hⁱp^{le} dude sum from Rome
 For heom to lere gode pepest_{to},^{to}
 And for to leten heore unpepe^{re}_{ce}
 He mihte bet sitte stille

1020 For al his hⁱp^{le} he scholde spille waate

He mihte bet teche ane beore bear

bear
To p^ere bope scheld and spere
þan me þat vilde folc ibringe

þat hi me woldie ihere singe [ms. Cot. fol. 240 c]

1025 Hⁱp^{at} schold(e) ich par mid mine songe

Ne sunge ich heom never so longe [ms. Arch. fol.

Mi song pere w^{as}ter ech del part 236 c]

For heom ne mai halter ne bridel

Bringe from heore p^ode p^{is}c^e insane ways

1030 Ne mon mid stele ne mid ise iron

Ac par lond is bope este and god

And þar men habbeþ milde mod

Ich notie mid heom mine profe

For ich mai do þar gode note service

1035 And bringe heom leovē tidinge S

For ich of chirchesonge singe

Hit þas iseid in olde laze lawe

And ȝet ilast pilke soþsaze true saying

þat man schal ezen and sope

1040 par he penþ after sum god mope ready

For he is w^{or}d þat sopeþ his sed

par never gras ne springþ ne bled. lessons

þe ule þas prop to cheste rad chide

Mid pisse porde hire ezen abrad named rapid

1045 þu seist þu pitest manne bure

w^{or}þar leves beop and faire flures

þar tƿo heove in one bedde

Liggeþ fclūpt and þel bihedde ded

Enes þu sunge ich pot pel h^{ea}re

1016 pile Cot. — 1017 hom Cot. — 1019 mihte Cot. — 1020 vor
 Cot. and Arch. — hwile Arch. pile Cot. — sholde Cot. scolde Arch.
 — 1021 bore Cot. — 1024 me segge polde Cot. — 1025 pat sol
 Cot. — 1027 uych Arch — 1029 vrom heore Cot. — wode Arch. pude
 Cot. — 1030 ire Cot. and Arch. — 1031 long Cot. — 1033 notye
 Arch. noti Cot. — hom Cot. — 1035 love Cot. leve Arch. — tipinge
 Cot. — 1039 shal Cot. — 1042 sprinþ Cot. — 1046 bop Cot. — flores
 Cot. — 1047 ilove Cot. — 1048 biclop Cot. — 1049 ic Cot. and
 Arch. — pod Cot. — hware Arch. pare Cot.

house w - trace
 1050 Bi one bure and golderest lere
 þe lefdi to an(e) yvel juve
 And sunge bope loȝe and buve high
 And lefdest hi to don schome
 And unriht of hire lichome bady

1055 þe loverd pat sone underat discoun and
 Lim and grine and pel ihpat eur [ms. Cot. fol. 240 d]
 Sette and leide pe for to lacche Catch and
 þu come sone to pan haccheast [ms. Cot. fol. 240 d]
 þu þere intime in one grine gun

1060 Al hit abohte pine schine [ms. Arch. fol. 236 d] —
 þu naddest non oper dom ne laze judgment
 Bute mid yilde horse pere todraze pailed of ferol
 Fond ȝif þu miht eft misrede miserey
 Hweþer þu pilt pif pe maide

Sett: (which?) 1065 bi song mai beo so longe genge swersejue
 pat þu schalt hƿippen on a sprengre trap
 be nihtegale at pisse ƿorde
 Mid spærde and mid speres orde fift
 ȝif heo mon pere yold fehfe

1070 Ac þo heo bet do ne mihte
 Heo faht mid hire ƿise tung
 Pel fift pat ƿel specp seip in pe songe
 Of hire tunghe heo nom red
 Pel fift pat pel specp seide Alfred

1075 Hƿat seistu pis for mine schome?
 þe loverd hadde her of grōmed
 He ƿas so gelus of his ƿife
 pat he ne mihte for his live
 Iseo pat man ƿip hire speke

1080 pat his heorte nolde breke
 He hire bilek in one bure
 pat hire ƿas bope stronge and sure
 Ich hadde of hire milse and ore

1053 shome Cot. — 1054 unriht Cot. — lichome Cot. — 1056 lium
 Cot. lym Arch. — grine Cot. grune Arch. — & Cot. and Arch. —
 eipat Cot. — 1057 leyde Arch. ledde Cot. — 1060 abohte Cot. —
 shine Cot. — 1063 vonde Cot. vond' Arch. — miht Cot. — 1064
 hweþer Arch. paper Cot. — pult Cot. — 1065 bo Cot. — 1066
 hƿippen Arch. pippen Cot. — 1068 sporde Cot. swerde Arch. —
 1069 ho Cot. — fizte Cot. — 1071 ho vajt Cot. — 1075 pat Cot.
 — shome Cot. — 1079 iso Cot. — 1080 horte Cot. — 1081 bileck
 Cot.

And sori pas for hire sore
 1085 And skente hi mid mine songe *genuinely*
 Al pat ich mihte rape and longe
 For pan pe cniht pas ~~rip~~ me prop *angry*
 For rihte nipe ich ~~pas~~ him lop *hated*
 He dude me his oȝene schome

1090 Ac al him turnde hit to gromegnif
 pat underpat pe king Henri [ms. Cot. fol. 241a]
 Jesus his soule do merci
 He let forbonne pene cniht
 pat hadde idon so muchel unriht *wrong* [ms. Arch. fol. 237a]

1095 In so gode kinges londe
 For rihte nipe and fule onde *hatred*
 Let pane luttle fule nime
 And him fordeme lif and lime *honor*
 Hit pas purpschipe al mine cunne *hundred*

1100 For pon pe cniht forles his yunne *class*
 And ȝaf for me an hundred punde
 And mine briddes seten isunde *trapky*
 And hadde seoppe blisse and hihte
 And pere blipe and pel mihte

1105 For pan ich pas so pel apreke *avenged*
 Ever eft ich dar pe bet speke
 For hit bitidde ene spo ... *lime*
 Ich am pe blipure ever mo *happier*
 Nu ich mai singe hpar ich pulle

1110 Ne dar me never eft mon agrulle *annoy*
 Ac pu erming pu preccehe gost *spirit*
 þu ne canst finde ne pu nost
 An holz stoc hpar pu pe miht hude
 pat me ne tpenge pine hude

1115 For children gromes heme and hine
 Hi pencheþ alle of pire pine
 Jif hi muȝe iseo pe sitte

1086 ic Arch. — 1087 knijt Cot. knyht Arch. — 1088 ic wes Arch.
 — 1089 owe Arch. — 1090 it Cot. hit turnde hI eft Arch.
 — 1094 suich Arch. for so muchel — unprizt Cot. — 1095 ine Cot.
 — 1096 & for Cot. — 1099 pr̄psipe Cot. wr̄psipe Arch. — kunne
 Cot. kūne Arch. — 1100 furles Arch. — 1103 soppe Cot. seþþe
 Arch. — hiȝte Cot. — 1105 vor Cot. and Arch. — þon Cot. — 1106
 darr Cot. — 1108 bliþur ev' Cot. — 1109 ic Arch. — hwar Arch.
 par Cot. — 1110 dar Cot. and Arch. — 1111 eremig Cot. — 1113
 holeh Arch. — stok par Cot. — 1114 tpengeþ Cot. — 1116 pine
 Arch. — 1117 mowe Arch. — iso Cot.

Stones hi dop in heore slitte
 And pe totorveþ and toheneþ
 1120 And þine fule bon toscheneþ
 ȝif þu art iporpe oper ischote
 þanne þu miht erest to note
 For me pe hop in one rodde
 And þu mid þine fule codde
 1125 And mid þine ate(l)liche speore
 Biperest manne corn from deore [ms. Cot. fol. 241 b]
 Nis noþer noht þi lif ne pi blod
 Ac þu art scheules spipe god [ms. Arch. fol. 237 b]
 þar neope sedes beop isope
 1130 Pinnuc goldfinch rok ne crope
 Ne dar par never cumen ihende
 ȝif pi buc hongeþ at pan ende
 þar treon schulle a ȝere blope
 And ȝunge sedes springe and gropē
 1135 Ne dar no fuȝel par to fonge
 ȝif þu art par over ihonge
 þi lif is evre luper and cped
 þu nart noht bute ded
 Nu þu miht pite sikerliche
 1140 þat þine leches beop grisliche
 pe hyile þu art on lifdaȝe
 For hyane þu honest islaȝe
 ȝet hi beop of pe ofdradde
 pe fuȝeles þat pe er bigradde
 1145 Mid rihte men beop piþ pe proþe
 For þu singest ever of heore loþe
 Al þat þu singst rape oper late
 Hit is ever of manne unhpate
 Hyane þu havest a niht igrad
 1150 Men beop of pe pel sore ofdrad

1119 totorved *Cot.* — 1120 tosheneþ *Cot.* — 1121 ishote *Cot.* iscote
Arch. — 1125 sweore *Arch.* spore *Cot.* — 1126 vrom dore *Cot.* — 1127
 nouþ' nouþ *Arch.* noȝt *Cot.* — 1128 shueles *Cot.* sheules *Arch.* —
 swiþe *Arch.* suþe *Cot.* — 1129 noþe *Cot.* newe *Arch.* — 1130 golfinç
Cot. — 1133 tron *Cot.* — shulle *Cot.* schulleþ *Arch.* — 1135 vonge
Cot. — 1137 qued *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1138 nard *Cot.* — 1139 myht *Arch.*
 miȝt *Cot.* — 1140 boþ *Cot.* — 1141 hwile *Arch.* pile *Cot.* — 1142 vor
Cot. and *Arch.* — pane *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — 1143 yet *Arch.* yut *Cot.*
 — atdradde *Arch.* — 1146 singist *Cot.* — ev' *Cot.* omitted in *Arch.*
 — hore *Cot.* — 1147 singest *Arch.* — 1148 mannes *Arch.* — unpate
Cot. — 1149 pane *Cot.* hwanne *Arch.* — nyht *Arch.* niȝt *Cot.*

gen
[ms. Cot. fol. 241 c]
[ms. Arch. fol. 237 c]

þu singst þar sum man schal beo ded
 Ever þu bodesum sumne cƿed
 þu sing(e)st aȝen ahte lure
 Oper of sume freondes rure
 1155 Oper þu bodesum huses brune
 Oper ferde of manne oper ƿeoves rune
 Oper þu bodesum cƿalm of orve
 Oper þat londfolc purp idorve
 Oper þat pif leost hire make
 1160 Oper þu bodesum cheste and sake [ms. Cot. fol. 241 c]
 Ever þu singest of manne harme
 þurh þe hi beoþ sorie and arme [ms. Arch. fol. 237 c]
 þu ne singst never one sipe
 þat hit nis for sume unsipe
 1165 Her fore hit is þat me pe schunep
 And pe totorvep and tobunep
 Mid stave and stone and turf and clute
 þat þu ne miht nohpar atrute
 Dahet ever spich budel in tune
 1170 þat ever beodep unpreste rune
 And ever bringeþ uvele tidinge
 And ever specþ of uvele ƿinge
 God almihti purþe him prop
 And al þat perieþ linnene cloþ
 1175 þe ule nabod noht spiþe longe
 Ac ȝef ondspare starke and stronge
 Hpat cƿap heo artu ihoded
 Oper þu cursest al unihoded
 For prestes pike ich þat þu dest
 1180 Ich not ȝef þu pere evre prest

1151 shal Cot. sal Arch. — be Cot. — 1152 qued Cot. and Arch.
 — 1153 ayhte Arch. eiste Cot. — 1154 summe Cot. süme Arch.
 cƿmp. l. 293 — frondes Cot. vrendes Arch. — 1155 bodes Cot. —
 1156 ƿeves Cot. ƿeves Arch. — 1157 cualm Cot. qualm Arch. —
 oreve Cot. — 1159 lost Cot. — 1160 an Cot. — 1161 singist Cot.
 — hareme Cot. — 1162 purȝ Cot. — boþ sorri Cot. — & Cot. and
 Arch. — areme Cot. — 1164 summe Arch. sum Cot. — 1165 vore
 Cot. and Arch. — shunep Cot. sunep Arch. — 1167 stoone Cot.
 — 1168 miȝt nopar Cot. nowarr Arch. — 1169 suich Cot. not in Arch.
 — 1170 ev' Cot. not in Arch. — bodep Cot. bedeþ Arch. — 1171
 tipinge Cot. — 1173 almiȝti prþe Cot. almyhti wrþe Arch. — 1174
 wrecþ Arch. — 1175 hule ne abot noȝt spiþ Cot. — 1176 ah Cot.
 — yef Arch. — answers Arch. — 1177 pat Cot. — quaþ Cot. queþ
 Arch. — ho Cot. — hartu Cot. ertu Arch. — 1178 kursest Cot. —
 1179 ic wot Arch. — 1180 ȝavre Cot. not in Arch.

Ich not ȝef þu canst masse singe
 Inoh þu canst of (a)mansinge
 Ac hit is for pine alde nipe
 þat þu me acursedest oper sipe
 1185 Ac par to is lihtlich ondspare
 Drah to pe cƿaþ þe cartare
 Hpi atƿitstu me mine insihte
 And min ipit and mine mihte
 For ich am piti ful iƿis

1190 And pot al þat to cumen is
 Ich pot of hunger of hergonge
 Ich pot ȝef men schule libbe longe
 Ich pat ȝef pif lust hire make
 Ich pat hƿar schal beo niƿ and prake [ms. Cot. fol. 241 d]

1195 Ich pot hƿo schal beon anhonge
 Oper elles fulne dep afonge
 ȝef men habbep bataile inume
 Ich pat hƿaper schal beon overcume
 Ich pat ȝif cƿalm schal cumen on orve [ms. Arch.
 1200 And ȝif deor schule ligge astorve fol. 237 d]
 Ich pot ȝef treon schule blope
 Ich pat ȝef cornes schule gropē
 Ich pot ȝef huses schule berne
 Ich pot ȝef men schule eorne oper erne

1205 Ich pot ȝef sea schal schipes drenche
 Ich pot ȝef smipes schule uvele clenche
 And ȝet ich con muchel more
 Ich con inoh in bokes lore
 And ek ich can of pe godspelle

1210 More þan ich nule pe telle
 For ich at chirche cume ilome
 And muchel leorni of pisdome

1182 inouh *Arch.* — 1183 ah *Cot.* — olde *Arch.* — 1184 akurse-
 dest oder side *Cot.* — 1185 ah *Cot.* — answere *Arch.* — 1186 cƿað
Cot. queþ *Arch.* — kartere *Arch.* — 1187 pi *Cot.* — ȝisihte *Arch.*
 — 1188 & *Arch.* an *Cot.* — myhte *Arch.* miȝte *Cot.* — 1190 pod
Cot. and *Arch.* — kumen *Cot.* comen *Arch.* — 1191 heregonge *Arch.*
 — 1192 sulle *Arch.* — 1193 ic wot *Arch.* — luste *Cot.* — 1194
 par *Cot.* — sal *Arch.* — 1195 hƿo *Cot.* hwo *Arch.* — sal beo *Arch.*
 — & honge *Cot.* — 1198 hƿaper *Arch.* — overkume *Cot.* — 1199
 qualm *Arch.* — scal *Cot.* sal *Arch.* — comen *Cot.* — orfe *Cot.* —
 1200 dor schul *Cot.* schulle *Arch.* — & storve *Cot.* — 1206 schal
Cot. sale *Arch.* — 1209 an eke *Cot.* — godspelle *Cot.* — 1210
 wile *Arch.* — 1211 chirche *Arch.* — come *Cot.* — 1212 muche *Cot.*

Ich pat al of pe tacninge
 And of oper feole pinge
 1215 þef eni mon schal rem abide
 Al ich hit pot ar hit itide
 Ofte for mine muchele ipitte
 Pel sorimod and prop ich sitte
 Hpan ich iseo þat sum precchede

1220 Is manne neh inoh ich grede
 Ich bidde þat men beon ipare
 And habbe gode redes ȝare
 For Alfred seide a pis yord
 Euch mon hit scholde legge on hord

1225 þef pu isihst (him) er he beo icume
 His strengpe is him pel neh binume
 And grete duntas beop pe lasse
 þef me ikepp mid iparnesse [ms. Cot. fol. 242a]
 And fleo schal topard misyenge

1230 þef pu isihst hu fleo of strelige
 For pu miht blenche pel and fleo
 ȝif pu isihst heo to pe teo
 þat eni man beo falle in edpite
 Hpi schal he me his sor atpite

1235 þah ich iseo his harm bifore
 Ne cumep hit noht of me par fore [ms. Arch. fol. 238a]
 þah pu iseo þat sum blind mon
 þat nanne rihtne pei ne con
 To pare diche his dpeole fuliep

1240 And fallep and par one suliep
 Penest pu þah ich al iseo
 þat hit for me pe rapere beo
 Al spo hit farep bi mine pitte
 Hpanne ich on mine boȝe sitte

1214 vale Arch. — 1216 ear Cot. — 1217 witte Arch. — 1218 wrop
 Arch. porp Cot. — i Arch. — 1219 pan Cot. hwanne Arch. — ic
 Arch. — wrecchede Arch. prechede Cot. — 1220 cuminde neyh Arch.
 — innoh Cot. — ic Arch. — 1221 iparre Cot. warre Arch. — 1222
 reades Cot. — yare Arch. ȝarre Cot. — 1224 uych Arch. — schulde
 Cot. — 1225 if Arch. — isyst her heo Arch. er not in Cot. —
 1226 strncpe Cot. — 1228 ikepep Arch. — 1229 misyenge Arch.
 — 1231 mijt Cot. — wel Cot. not in Arch. — 1233 pauh Arch.
 — edwite Arch. odpite Cot. — 1234 hwi Arch. pi Cot. — 1235 bivore
 Cot. and Arch. — 1236 comep Cot. — noȝt Cot. nouht Arch. — vore
 Cot. — 1239 dwele Arch. — fulied Cot. volewep Arch. — 1240
 onne Arch. — sulied Cot. — 1242 raper Arch. — 1243 so Arch.
 — 1244 panne ic Arch. — bope Cot. bowe Arch. emp. l. 15

1245 Ich pot and iseo spipe brihte
 An sume men cumep harm par rihte
 Schal he pat per of no ping not
 Hit pite me for ich hit pot
 Schal he his mishap pite me

1250 For ich am pisure pan he
 Hpanne ich iseo pat sum precchede
 Is manne neh inoh ich grede
 And bidde inoh pat hi heom schilde
 For topard heom is harm unmilde

1255 Ac pah ich grede lude and stille
 Al hit itid purh godes yille
 Hpi pullep men of me hi mene
 Pah ich mid sope heo ahpene
 Pah ich hi parni al pat ȝer

1260 Nis heom per fore harm no pe ner
 Ac ich heom singe for ich polde [ms. Cot. fol. 242 b]
 Pat hi pel understande scholde
 Pat sum unselpe heom is ihende
 Hpan ich min huing to heom sende

1265 Navep no man none sikerhede
 Pat he ne mai pene and adrede
 Pat sum unhuate neh him beo
 Pah he ne cunne hit iseo
 For pi seide Alfred spipe pel

1270 And his pord pas godspel
 Pat ever euch man pe bet him beo
 Ever pe bet he hine biseo
 Ne truste no mon to his peole [ms. Arch. fol. 238 b]
 To spipe pah he habbe feole

1275 Nis noht so hot pat hit nacolep
 Ne noht so hpit pat hit ne solep

1246 þ' Arch. — summe Cot. sūme Arch. — kumed Cot. — 1247
 nowiht Arch. — 1249 witen Arch. — 1250 þane Cot. — 1251 preche-
 de Cot. wretched' Arch. — 1252 neyh inouh Arch. — 1254 harm
 unmylde Arch. wanting in Cot. — 1255 ah Cot. — 1256 purþ Cot.
 — 1258 apene Cot. awene Arch. — 1260 par vore Arch. — harem
 Cot. a tem Arch. — no wanting in Arch. — 1261 ah Cot. — heom
 not in Arch. — 1262 þet (þer?) Arch. — schulde Cot. — 1263 sū
 unsel Arch. — 1264 hwen ic Arch. — hoing Cot. — 1267 unhappy Arch.
 — neih Arch. ney Cot. — 1268 conne Cot. — 1270 word Arch. porde
 Cot. — godspell Cot. — 1271 him not in Arch. — 1272 ev' Arch.
 eaver Cot. — beseo Cot. — 1273 triste Arch. — wele Arch. — 1274
 veole Cot. vele Arch. — 1275 nouf Cot. — 1276 noȝt Cot.

Ne noht so leof pat hit naloþep
 Ne noht so glad pat hit naþroþep
 Ac evere euch þing pat eche nis
 1280 Agon schal and al pis porldes blis
 Nu þu miht piten redeliche
 þat ever þu spekest gidiliche
 For al pat þu me seist for schame
 Ever þe seolve hit turneþ to grame
 1285 Go so hit go at eche fenge
 þu fallest mid pine aȝene spenqe
 Al pat þu seist for me to schende
 Hit is mi purþschipe at þan ende
 Bute þu pille bet aginne
 1290 Ne schaltu bute schame ipinne
~~thoughtfu~~ pe nihtegale sat and sihte ~~segheid~~
 And hohful pas and ful þel mihte
 For pe ule spo ispeke hadde
 And hire speche spo iladde [ms. Cot. fol. 242 c]
 1295 Heo pas hohful and erede ~~at a los~~
 Hpat heo par after hire sede
 Ac no þe les heo hire understod
 Hpat heo seide ule artu pod
 þu ȝelpest of selliche pisdome
 1300 þu nustest hpanene he þe come
 Bute hit of picchecrafte pere
 þar of þu precche most pe skere
 ȝif þu yult a mong manne beo
 Oper þu most of londe fleo
 1305 For alle peo pat per of cuþe
 Heo pere ifurn of prestes muþe
 Amansed spuch þu art ȝete
 þu picchecrafte never ne letē

1277 noȝt Cot. — ne aloþep Cot. — 1278 noȝt Cot. — ne aproþep Cot. — 1279 ah Cot. — eav'e euh Cot. ev' ich Arch. — 1281 miȝt pite readiliche Cot. — 1282 eav'e Cot. — gideliche Cot. — 1284 ev' Cot. and Arch. — grome Cot. and Arch. — 1286 ahene Cot. owe Arch. — 1288 purschipe Cot. wrþsipe Arch. — 1291 niȝtingale Cot. — syhte Arch. sihte Cot. — 1292 houhful Arch. — myhte Arch. miȝte Cot. — 1293 hule Cot. — so Arch. — 1295 houhful Arch. hopful Cot. — 1296 seyde Arch. — 1297 ah neo Cot. — 1298 pat Cot. — 1299 ȝelpest Arch. ȝelpest Cot. — seolliche Cot. — 1300 panene Cot. hwenne Arch. — 1301 picchecrafte Cot. — 1302 moste Cot. — 1303 boe Cot. — 1306 uere Cot. weren Arch. — 1307 amanset Cot. — such Arch. — ȝette Cot. — 1308 neav' Cot.

Ich pe seide nu lutel ere
1310 And pu askedest ȝef ich pere
 A bisemere to preoste ihoded [ms. Arch. fol. 238 c]
 Ac pe (a)mansing is so ibroded
 þah no preost a londe nere
 A precche na pe les pu pere
1315 For ever euch child pe cleopeþ fulē
 And ever euch man a precche ule
 Ich habbe iherd and sop hit is
 þe mon mot beo pel steorrepis
 And ȝite inoh of hycche ȝinge cume
1320 So pu seist pat is (þin) iƿune
 Hƿat canstu precche ȝing of steorre
 Bute pat pu bipaitest hi feorre
 Al spo dep mani deor and man
 þe of spuche, napiht ne can
1325 On ape mai a boc bihalde
 And leves penden and eft folde
 Ac he ne con pe bet par fore
 Of clerkes lore top ne more [ms. Cot. fol. 242 d]
 þah pu iseо pe steorre al spa
1330 Nartu pe pisure never pe mo
 Ac ȝet pu fule ȝing me chist
 And pel grimliche me atþist
 Pat ich singe bi manne huse
 And teche pive breke spuse
1335 Pu liest ipis pu fule ȝing
 purh me nas never ischend spusing
 Ac sop hit is ich singe and grede
 par lavedies beop and faire maide

1310 if *Arch.* — 1311 bisimere *Cot.* bysemare *Arch.* — preost *Cot.* —
 1312 ah *Cot.* — 1314 neo *Cot.* — 1315 ev' *Arch.* eav' *Cot.* — ich *Arch.*
 — chil *Cot.* chid *Arch.* — 1316 & *Arch.* an *Cot.* — ev' *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — hule *Cot.* — 1318 storrepis *Cot.* sturrewis *Arch.* — 1319 innoy
Cot. — hwiche *Arch.* pucche *Cot.* — þige *Arch.* — kūe *Cot.* — 1320
 pou *Cot.* — þ' *Arch.* — 1321 storre *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1322 bihai-
 test *Cot.* and *Arch.* — ferre *Arch.* — 1323 so dop *Arch.* — dor
Cot. — 1324 þeo *Cot.* and *Arch.* — suyche *Arch.* hspucche *Cot.* —
 con *Cot.* — 1325 on bok *Arch.* — 1326 wende *Arch.* — 1327 ah
Cot. — vore *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1329 so *Arch.* — 1330 wisere *Arch.*
 — nev' *Arch.* neav' *Cot.* — 1331 ah *Cot.* — 1334 & theche *Arch.*
 an teache *Cot.* — wyve *Arch.* pife *Cot.* — 1335 lyest *Arch.* — 1336
 þ me *Cot.* — nes *Arch.* — neav' *Cot.* nev' isēd *Arch.* — 1337 ah
Cot. — 1338 feyre meide *Arch.*

And sop hit is of lufe ich singe
 1340 For god þif mai in spusinge
 Bet luvien hire oȝene pere
 þane ahper hire copenere
 And maide mai lufe cheose
 þat hire purþschipe ne forleose

1345 And luvie mid rihte lufe
 þane pe schal beon hire buve
 Spiche lufe ich iteche and lere
 þer of beoþ al(le) mine ibere [ms. Arch. fol. 238d]
 þah sum þif beo of nesche mode

1350 For pummen beoþ of softe blode
 þat heo purh sume sottes lore
 þe ȝeorne bit and sikeþ sore
 Misrempe and misdo sumne stunde
 Schal ich par fore beon ibunde

1355 ȝif ȝimmen luvieþ unrede
 Pitestu me heore misdede
 ȝef ȝimmon penchep luvie derne
 Ne mai ich mine songes perne
 Pummon mai pleie under cloþe

1360 Hƿeþer heo pile pel pe proþe
 And heo mai do bi mine songe
 Hƿeþer heo pile pel pe pronge [ms. Cot. fol. 248a]
 For nis a ƿorlde ƿing so god
 þat ne mai do sum ungod

1365 ȝif me hit pile turne a mis
 For gold and seolver god hit is
 And no pe les par mid pu miht
 Spusbruche buggen and unriht
 Pepne beoþ gode grip to halde

1370 And no pe les par mid beoþ men acþalde
 Aȝeines riht an feole londe

1340 i Cot. — 1342 þan Arch. — aþer (apet?) Cot. on oper Arch.
 — copinere Arch. — 1343 & Arch. an Cot. — 1344 treuschipe Arch.
 — 1347 suyche Arch. — itache Cot. theche Arch. — 1348 þ' Arch.
 — 1350 pummon Cot. wymmen Arch. — 1351 þ Cot. vor Arch.
 — 1352 yorne Arch. — 1353 misnymne Arch. for misrempe — sume
 Arch. — 1354 vore Cot. and Arch. — 1356 witestu Arch. hƿitistu
 Cot. — hore Cot. — 1358 ne ne Cot. and Arch. — 1359 wymmon
 Arch. — 1360 hƿeþer Arch. peþer Cot. — 1362 hƿapeþer Cot. — wile
 Arch. pule Cot. — 1365 wile Arch. pule Cot. — 1367 na Arch. —
 miȝt Cot. — 1368 unriȝt Cot. — 1370 & Arch. ah Cot. — neo Cot.
 na Arch. — mide Cot. — 1371 fale Cot. of alle Arch.

þar peoves hi bereþ an honde
 Al spa hit is bi mine songe
 þah he beo god me hine mai misfonge

1375 And drahe hine to sothede
 And to oþre uvele dede
 Ac schaltu precche luve tele
 Beo hpuch heo beo uich luve is fele
 Bitþeone pepmon and pimmanne

1380 Ac ȝef heo is atbroide penne
 Heo is unfele and forbroke
 Prop purþe heom þe holi rode
 þe rihte icunde spo forbreidep
 Punder hit is pat heo napedep

1385 And spo heo dop for heo beoþ pode [ms. Arch. fol. 239a]
þe bute neste gop to brode
 Pummon is of nesche flesche
 And flesches lust is strong to cþesche
 Nis þunder nan þah he abide

1390 For flesches lust hi makeþ slide
 Ne beoþ heo noht alle forlore
 pat stumpeþ at þe flesches more
 For moni þummon haveþ misdo
 pat (eft) arist up of þe slo

1395 Ne beoþ noht ones alle sunne
 For pan hi beoþ tþeire cunne [ms. Cot. fol. 243b]
 Sum arist of þe flesches luste
 And sum of þe gostes custe
 pat flesch draheþ men to drunkenesse

1400 And to ȝlonchede and to golnesse
 þe gost misdeþ purh niþ and onde
 And seoppe mid murhþe of monnes honde
 And ȝeorneþ after more and more

1372 bered Cot. — 1374 heo Cot. and Arch. — 1375 drawe Arch. —
 1377 ah Cot. and Arch. — wrecche Arch. precch Cot. — 1378 bo puch
 Cot. beo hwich Arch. — ho bo Cot. — 1379 bitwene þe mon Arch.
 — pimmane Cot. wymonne Arch. — 1380 ah Cot. and Arch. —
 þeonne Arch. — 1381 he Cot. and Arch. — 1382 him Arch. — 1383
 ikunde Cot. icund' Arch. — 1386 nest Cot. — 1388 lustes Cot. and
 Arch. — cþesße Cot. queisse Arch. — 1390 lustes Cot. and Arch.
 — 1391 nouht Arch. nopt (noyt?) Cot. — 1394 aris op Cot. — 1395
 nopt Cot. — 1396 kunne Cot. ikunne Arch. — 1397 sun Cot. —
 1399 fleys drahp Arch. — drunkenesse Cot. — 1400 wlonkhede Arch.
 pronic-hede Cot. — 1401 þurch niþe Cot. — 1403 ȝeoneþ Cot. wun-
 neþ Arch.

And lutel recip of milce and ore
 1405 And stiȝp on heh purh modinesse
 And overhoheȝ pane lasse
 Sei me soȝ ȝef þu hit post
 Hƿeþer dep þurh flesch pe gost
 þu miht segge ȝef þu pult
 1410 þat lasse is þes flesches gult
 Moni man is of his flesche clene
 þat is mid mode deovel imene
 Ne schal non mon ƿimman bigrede
 And flesches lustes hire upbreide
 1415 Spuch he may teln of golnesse
 þat sunegeþ þurh in modinesse
 Hƿat ȝif ich schulde a luve bringe
 Pif oper maide hpanne ich singe
 Ich polde pip pe maide holde
 1420 ȝif þu hit const a riht atholde
 Lust nu ich segge pe hƿar fore
 Up to þe toppe from þe more [ms. Arch. fol. 239 b]
 ȝef maide luveþ derneliche
 Heo stumpeþ and falp icundeliche
 1425 For pah heo sume hƿile pleie
 Heo nis noht feor ut of þe peie
 Heo mai (ȝet) hire gult atpende
 A rihte peie purh chirche bende
 And mai eft habbe to make
 1430 Hire leofmon pipute sake [ms. Cot. fol. 243 c]
 And gon to him bi daies lihte
 þat er stal to bi peostre nihte
 An ȝungling not hƿat spuch ping is
 His ȝunge blod hit draȝeþ a mis
 1435 And sum sot mon hit tiȝp par to
 Mid alle þan þat he mai do

1404 rekp Arch. rehp Cot. emp. l. 491 — 1405 heyh Arch. hey Cot.
 — þury Cot. pur Arch. — 1406 overhohed panne Cot. — 1407 soop
 Cot. — 1408 wurse Cot. and Arch. — 1409 miȝt Cot. — 1410 þe
 Cot. for þes — 1413 ƿimman Cot. ƿymman Arch. — 1414 & Arch.
 an Cot. — 1415 such heo mahte beo Arch. — 1416 þ' Arch. —
 1 Arch. i Cot. — 1417 hwet Arch. bet Cot. — 1421 vore Cot. and
 Arch. — 1423 derneliche Cot. — 1425 þaih Arch. — sum Cot. sū
 Arch. — 1426 nouȝt Cot. — 1427 guld Cot. and Arch. — 1428 þury
 Cot. — 1431 go Cot. — 1432 bistal on peoster nyhte Arch. — 1433
 ȝuling Cot. yongling Arch. — 1434 draȝp Arch. — 1435 man Arch.

He cumeþ and fareþ and þeod abid
 And heo bistant and oversit
 And bisehp ilome and longe

1440 Hpat mai þat child pah hit misfonge
 Hit nuste never hpat hit pas
 For pi hit pohte fondi pas
 And pite ipis hpuch beo þe gome
 þat of pe pilde makeþ tome

1445 Ne mai ich (noht) for reope lete
 Hpanne ich iseo þe tohte ilete
 þe lufe bringþ on þe ȝunglinge
 þat ich of murȝþe heom ne singe
 Ich teche heom bi mine songe

1450 þat spuche lufe ne lest noht longe
 For mi song lutle hpile ileste
 And lufe ne deþ noht bute reste
 On spuche childre and sone ageþ
 And salp a dun þe hote breþ

1455 Ich singe mid heom one þroze
 Biginne on heh and endi laȝe
 And lete mine songes falle
 An lutle hpile a dun mid alle
 þat maide pot hpanne ich spike [ms. Arch. fol. 239 c]

1460 þat lufe is mine songes iliche
 For hit nis butz a lutel breþ
 þat sone cumeþ and sone geþ
 þat child bi me hit understand
 And his unred to rede pend [ms. Cot. fol. 243 d]

1465 And isihþ pel bi mine songe
 þat dusi lufe ne last noht longe
 Ac pel ich pule þat pu hit pite
 Lop me beoþ pives utschute

1477 comeþ Cot. — & bid Cot. — 1438 & Arch. ^{Fan} Cot. — he Arch.
 — bistarte Arch. — & Cot. an Arch. — oversid Cot. oper sid Arch.
 — 1439 bisekp Arch. — 1440 þ chil Cot. — 1441 nev' Arch. neav'
 Cot. — 1444 so Cot. for þe — 1445 reupe Arch. — 1446 hwanne
 Arch. panne Cot. — 1447 bring Cot. and Arch. — þe not in Arch.
 — wunglinge Arch. — 1448 him Cot. hī Arch. — 1449 teache Cot.
 theche Arch. — 1450 spucch Cot. suych Arch. — last Arch. — noȝt
 Cot. — 1451 ilest Cot. — 1452 doþ Arch. — noȝt Cot. — rest
 Cot. — 1453 spuch Cot. such Arch. — 1455 þrowe Arch. — 1456
 an heyh Arch. — lowe Arch. — 1457 mines Cot. — 1458 an lutle
 pile Cot. a lude wise Arch. — 1462 kumeþ Cot. — 1464 red wend
 Cot. iwend Arch. — 1465 isejþ Cot. sybjþ Arch. — 1466 noȝt Cot.
 — 1467 ah Cot. — wile Arch.

Ac pif mai of me nime ȝeme
1470 Ich ne singe noht hpan ich teme
 And pif ah lete sottes lõre
 þah spusingbendes þuncheþ sore
 Punder me þuncþ pel starc and stor
 Hu eni mon so ever for

1475 þat he his heorte mihte drive
 To do hit to opres mannes pive
 For oper hit is of tƿam þinge
 Ne mai þat pridde no man bringe
 Oper pe laverd is pel aht

1480 Oper aspunde and nis naht
 ȝef he is purþful and aht man
 Nele no man þat pisdom can
 Hure of his pive do him schame
 For he mai him adrede grame

1485 And þat he forleose þat per hongeþ
 þat him eft par to noht ne longeþ
 And pah he þat noht ne drede
 Hit is unriht and gret sothede
 To misdon one gode manne

1490 And his ibedde from him spanne
 ȝef hire laverd is forpurþe
 And unorne at bedde and at borde
 Hu mihte par beo eni lufe
 Hpanne a spuch cheorles buc hire lai buve

1495 Hu mai par eni lufe beo
 Hþar spuch man groped hire þeo [ms. Arch. fol. 239d]
 Her bi þu miht pel understande
 þat on is a reu þat oper schonde [ms. Cot. fol. 244a]
 To stele to opres mannes bedde

1500 For ȝif aht man is hire ibedde
 þu miht pene þat þe mistide
 Hpanne þu list bi hire side

1469 ah *Cot.* — wif *Arch.* ȝif *Cot.* — **1470** napt *Cot.* — **1471** auh
Arch. — **1472** bindep *Arch.* — **1473** pund'e *Cot.* — þungþ *Cot.*
 þinkþ *Arch. emp. l. 1672* — **1474** eavar *Cot.* — **1475** e *Cot.* he not
 in *Arch.* — myhte *Arch.* miȝte *Cot.* — **1476** an o do *Cot.* — opers
Cot. — **1479** oþar *Cot.* — auht *Arch.* — **1480** nouht *Arch.* — **1486**
 noȝt *Cot.* — **1487** noȝt *Cot.* — **1488** unriȝt *Cot.* — **1489** an o *Cot.*
 — **1491** forpurde *Cot.* — **1492** an *Cot.* — & *Cot.* — **1493** hw myhte
Arch. miȝte *Cot.* — **1494** panne *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — lay *Arch.*
 ley *Cot.* — **1496** par *Cot.* — **1497** miȝt *Cot.* — **1500** bedde *Cot.*
 — **1501** miȝt *Cot.* — **1502** panne *Cot.*

And ȝef þe laverd is a precche
 Hƿuch este mihtestu par fecche
 1505 ȝif þu bipenchest hƿo hire ofligge
 þu miht mid plate þe este bugge
 Ich not hu mai eni freo man
 For hire sechen after pan
 ȝef he bipencþ bi hƿan he lai
 1510 Al mai þe lufe gan a rai
 þe ule pas glad of spuche tale
 Heo pohte pat þe nihtegale
 þah heo sel speke at þe frume
 Hadde at pen ende misnume
 1515 And seide nu ich habbe ifunde
 pat maidenes beoþ of pine imunde
 Mid heom þu holdest and heom biperest
 And overspipe þu hi herest
 þe lavedies beoþ to me ipend
 1520 To me heo hire mone send
 For hit itit ofte and ilome
 þat pif and pere beoþ unisome
 And per fore þe pere gulte
 þat leof is over pummon to pulte
 1525 And speneþ on pare al pat he haveþ
 And sipeþ pare pat noplht naveþ
 And haveþ at hom his rihte spuse
 Popes peste and lere huse
 Pel punne ischrud and ifed proþe
 1530 And let heo bute mete and cloþe
 Hƿan he cumep ham eft to his pive
 Ne dar heo noht a pard ischire [ms. Cot. fol. 244b]
 He chid and gred spuch he beo pod [ms. Arch. fol. 240a]
 And ne bringþ hom non oper god
 1535 Al pat heo dep him is unpille
 Al pat heo spekeþ hit is him ille

1503 wrecche *Arch.* percche *Cot.* — 1504 myhtestu *Arch.* mihtistu
Cot. — vecche *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1506 miȝt *Cot.* — 1509 bipenkþ
Arch. — 1511 hule *Cot.* — 1512 þoȝte þat te *Cot.* — 1513 at te
Cot. and *Arch.* — 1514 þan *Arch.* — 1520 mode *Cot.* — 1521 itid
Arch. — 1524 þ' *Arch.* — 1525 hare *Arch.* — 1526 siweþ *Arch.*
 siueþ *Cot.* — hare *Arch.* — noht *Arch.* no riht *Cot.* — 1527 atom
Arch. attom *Cot.* — riȝte *Cot.* riche *Arch.* — 1528 and *Arch.* & *Cot.*
 — 1529 isrud *Arch.* ischud *Cot.* — ived *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1531
 pan *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — comeþ *Cot.* — hō *Arch.* — 1532 noȝt
Cot. — 1534 heom *Cot.*

And oft hƿan heo noht ne misdeþ
 Heo haveþ pe fust in hire tƿþ
 Nis nan mon þat ne mai ibringe
 1540 His pif amis mid spucche þinge
 Me hire mai so ofte misbeode
 þat heo do pule hire aȝene neode
 La god hit pot heo nah iƿeld
 þah heo hine makie cukeyeld
 1545 For hit itit ilome and ofte
 þat his pif is ƿel nesche and softe
 Of faire bleo and ƿel idihrt
 (For) Pi hit is þe more unriht
 þat he his lufe spene on þare
 1550 þat nis ƿurþ on of hire hare
 And spucche men beoþ ƿel manifolde
 þat pif ne cunne noht a riht holde
 Ne mot non mon piþ hire speke
 He ƿeneþ heo pule an on tobreke
 1555 Hire spusing ȝef heo lokeþ
 Oper piþ manne faire spekeþ
 He hire bilucþ mid keie and loke
 þar purh is spusing-ofte ibroke
 For ȝef heo is þar to ibroht
 1560 Heo deþ þat heo nadde er iƿoht
 Dahet þat to spipe hit bispeke
 þah spucche pives heom aþreke
 Her of pe lavedies to me meneþ
 And ƿel sore me aheneþ
 1565 ƿel neh min heorte pule tochine
 Hƿon ich biholde heore pine [ms. Cot. fol. 244c]
 Mid heom ich pepe spipe sore
 And for heom bidde cristes ore
 þat (he) pe lavedi sone aredde

1537 ofte Arch. — noht Cot. — 1539 no Arch. — 1540 spucche
 Cot. suche Arch. — 1542 ahene Cot. — 1543 iwelde Arch. — 1544
 þa Cot. — kukepeld Cot. — 1545 lome Cot. — 1550 one Cot. —
 heare Cot. and Arch. — 1551 an spucche Cot. & suche Arch. —
 1552 kunne nopt (noyt?) Cot. noht not in Arch. — riȝt Cot. — 1554
 wenep Arch. vened Cot. — wile Arch. — 1557 bilukþ Arch. biluþ
 Cot. — 1558 tobroke Cot. — 1560 he deþ Cot. and Arch. — ear
 Cot. and Arch. — iƿoht Arch. — 1561 spuþe Cot. — 1562 spucche
 Cot. suche Arch. — hire Cot. — 1564 ahwenep Arch. — 1565 wile
 Arch. — 1566 hwenen Arch. — bire Cot. — wine Arch. — 1567
 swipe Arch. spise Cot. — 1568 cristis Cot. — 1569 levedi Arch.

1570 And hire sende betere ibedde [ms. Arch. fol. 240b]
 An oper þing ich mai þe telle
 þat þu ne schalt for pine felle
 Ondspere none þar to finde
 Al þi (di)sputing schal asþinde

1575 Moni chapmon and moni cnihþ
 Luveþ and halt his pif a riht
 And spa dep moni bondeman
 þat gode pif dep after pan
 And serveþ him to bedde and bordæ

1580 Mid faire dede and faire porde
 And ȝeorne fondep hu heo muȝe
 Do þing þat him beo iduȝe
 þe laverd into pare peode
 Fareþ ut on pare beire neode

1585 And is þat gode pif unblipe
 For hire laverdes utsipe
 And sit and sicþ pel sore oflonged
 And hire sore an heorte ongrefþ
 Al for hire loverdes sake

1590 Haveþ daies care and nihtes pake
 And spipe longe hire is þe hylle
 And eche stape hire þuncþ a mile
 Hpanne opre slepeþ hire abute
 Ich one luste þar pipute

1595 And pot of hire sore mode
 And singe a niht for hire gode
 And mine song for hire pingē
 Ich turne sum del to murninge
 Of hire seorȝe ich bere sume

1600 For pan ich am hire pel pelcume [ms. Cot. fol. 244d]
 Ich hire helpe hpat ich mai

• 1572 schald *Cot.* — 1574 þis *Arch.* — 1576 hlad *Cot.* — 1577 so
 dop *Arch.* — 1579 to borde *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1581 yorne *Arch.*
 — muhe *Cot.* mowe *Arch.* — 1582 iduwe *Arch.* — 1583 lov'd *Arch.*
 — 1584 nedē *Cot.* — 1586 houndsipe *Cot.* houpsipe *Arch.* — 1587 sikþ
Arch. sihd *Cot.* — 1588 horte ongred *Cot.* — 1590 kare *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — niȝtes *Cot.* — 1591 swipe *Arch.* spupe *Cot.* — 1592 uych *Arch.*
 ek *Cot.* — steape *Cot.* — þump *Cot.* þinkþ *Arch.* — 1593 hwenne
Arch. — 1594 lust *Cot.* and *Arch.* — piðpute *Cot.* wippute *Arch.*
 — 1596 nyȝt *Arch.* niȝt *Cot.* — 1597 mine (myn) gode song *Cot.*
 and *Arch.* — 1598 su ð *Arch.* sun *Cot.* — murnige *Cot.* — 1599 hure
Cot. and *Arch.* — seorhe *Cot.* seorwe *Arch.* — 1601 i *Cot.*

For heo gep þane rihte þai
 Ac þu me hast sore igramed
 þat mine heorte is neh alamed
 1605 þat ich mai uneaþe speke
 Ac ȝet ich pule forþure reke
 þu seist þat ich am manne lop [ms. Arch. fol. 240 c]
 And ever eurch man is pip me prop
 And me mid stone and lugge preteþ
 1610 And me toburstep and tobeteþ
 And hpanne heo habbep me ofslaȝe
 Heo hongeþ me on heore haȝe
 þar ich aschepele pie and croþe
 From pan þat þar is isope
 1615 þah hit beo sop ich do heom god
 And for heom ich schedde mi blod
 Ich do heom god mid mine deaþe
 þar fore þe is pel uneaþe
 For þah þu ligge dead and clinge
 1620 þi dep nis noht to none þinge
 Ich not never to hpan þu miht
 For þu nart bute a precche yiht
 Ac þah mi lif me beo atschote
 þe ȝet ich mai do gode note
 1625 Me mai up one smale sticke
 Me sette a pude ine þe picke
 And spa mai mon tolli him to
 Lutle briddes and ifo
 And spa me mai mid me bijete
 1630 Pel gode brede to his mete
 Ac þu nevre mon to gode
 Lives ne deapes stal ne stode

1602 hoȝep Cot. howep Arch. — 1603 ah Cot. & Arch. — igremed Arch. — 1604 min Cot. myn Arch. — pel neh Cot. — alemed Arch. — 1605 unneape Cot. unnepe Arch. — 1606 ah Cot. — ic wile forþurre Arch. — 1607 ylad Cot. — 1608 pið Cot. — prod Cot. — 1610 tobusteþ Cot. toburste Arch. — 1611 hi Arch. — ofslaȝe Cot. ofslawe Arch. — 1612 i Arch. for on — hahe Cot. hawe Arch. cmp. l. 585 — 1613 ascheule Arch. — 1614 frō Arch. fron Cot. — þe Cot. for þat — þer Arch. — 1616 chadde Cot. — 1617 deþe Arch. — 1618 vore Cot. — unneape Cot. unmeþe Arch. — 1619 ded Arch. — 1620 nouht Arch. napt (nayt?) Cot. — 1621 nev' Arch. neaver Cot. — hwa Arch. — miȝt Cot. — 1622 wiht Arch. piȝt Cot. — 1623 ah Cot. — 1625 uppe Arch. — 1628 ivo Cot. and Arch. — 1629 so Arch. — 1631 ah Cot. and Arch.

Ich not to hyan þu bredst pi brod
 Lives ne deapes ne dep hit god [ms. Cot. fol. 245 a].

1635 þe nihtegale iherde pis
 And hupte uppon on blope ris
 And herre sat þan heo dude er
 Ule heo seide beo nu per
 Nulle ich pip þe plaidi na more [ms. Arch. fol. 240 d]

1640 For her þu mist pi rihte lore
 þu ȝelpest pat þu art manne lop
 And ever euch piht is pip þe prop
 And mid ȝollinge and mid igrede
 þu panst vel pat þu art unlede

1645 þu seist pat gromes pe ifop
 And heie on rode pe anhop
 And pe totpiccheþ and toschakeþ
 And sume of pe scheuples makeþ
 Me þuncþ pat þu forleost pat game

1650 þu ȝelpest of pire oȝe schame
 Me þuncþ pat þu me gest an honde
 þu ȝelpest of pire oȝene schonde
 þo heo hadde peos pord icpede
 Heo sat in one faire stede

1655 And þar after hire stefne dihte
 And song so schille and so brihte
 pat feor and ner me hit iherde
 þar fore an an to hire cherde
 þrusche and prostle and pudepale

1660 And fuȝeles boþe grete and smale
 For þan heom þuhte pat heo hadde
 þe ule overcome heo gradde

1633 hwan Arch. hƿa Cot. — breist Cot. and Arch. — 1635 ihede
 Cot. — 1636 uppé Arch. — 1637 ear Cot. — 1638 hule he Cot. —
 per Arch. pear Cot. — 1640 þe Cot. for þu — 1641 ȝelpest Cot.
 yelpest Arch. — 1642 pið Cot. — porþ Cot. — 1643 ȝollinge Arch.
 ȝulinge Cot. — 1644 þinchst Arch. — 1645 ifod Cot. ivop Arch. —
 1646 heye Arch. — rodde Cot. — anhod Cot. — 1647 totpitchet &
 toschaked Cot. — 1648 summe Cot. sūme Arch. — schaples Cot.
 scheules Arch. — maked Cot. — 1649 þunch Cot. þinkþ Arch.
 — 1650 yelpest Arch. ȝulpest Cot. — owe Arch. — 1651 þunch
 Cot. — 1652 ȝulpest Cot. — owe Arch. — 1654 stude Cot. and
 Arch. — 1655 stevene Cot. — 1657 fur Arch. — 1658 vore Cot.
 and Arch. — an on Arch. — 1660 fuheles Cot. foweles Arch. —
 1661 þan þ' heō Arch. — 1662 houle Cot. — vor (for) þan heo
 Cot. and Arch.

And sungen al spa feole pise
 þat blisse pas a mong þe rise

1665 Riht spa me gred þe manne a schame
 þat tavelep and forleost þat game
 þeos ule po heo pis iherde
 Havestu heo seide ibanned ferde [ms. Cot. fol. 245 b]
 And pultu precche pip me fihte

1670 Nai nai navestu none mihte
 Hpat gredep peo pat hider come [ms. Arch. fol. 241 a]
 Me puncp pu ledest ferde to me
 ȝe schule pite ar ȝe fleo heonne
 Hƿuch is þe strengþe of mine cunne

1675 For peo þe havep bile ihoked
 And clivres scharpe and pel icroked
 Alle heo beop of mine cunrede
 And polde cumen ȝif ich bede
 þe seolve coc þat pel can fihte

1680 He mot mid me holde mid rihte
 For bope þe habbep stefne brihte
 And sittep under peolcne bi nihte
 Schille ich an uthest up op grede
 Ich schal spo stronge ferde lede

1685 þat oper prude schal afalle
 A tord ne ȝive ich for op alle
 Ne schal ar hit beo fulliche eve
 A precche feper on op bileve
 Ac hit pas unker forepard

1690 po pe comen hiderpard
 þat pe par to holden scholde
 þat rihtne dom us ȝive polde

1663 vale Cot. and Arch. — an Cot. for þat — 1665 riȝt Cot. —
 1666 gome Cot. and Arch. — 1667 hule Cot. — 1669 precche pið
 Cot. — fiȝte Cot. — 1670 miȝte Cot. — 1671 heo Arch. — 1672
 pinkþ Arch. — ferd Cot. — 1673 schulle Arch. — 1674 strenþe
 Cot. — kunne Cot. and Arch. — 1675 þ' Arch. for þe — 1676
 charpe Cot. — 1677 kunrede Cot. and Arch. — 1678 palde come
 Cot. — 1679 seolfe Cot. — fiȝte Cot. vihte Arch. — 1680 wiþ Arch.
 for mid — riȝte Cot. — 1681 stevene briȝte Cot. — 1682 welkne
 Arch. — niȝte Cot. — 1683 schulle Arch. — utes uppenn Cot. —
 eu Arch. — 1684 shal Cot. — 1685 oure Arch. — proude Cot. —
 avalle Cot. and Arch. — 1686 tort Cot. — yeve Arch. — 1688
 wrecche Arch. precche Cot. — bileave Cot. — 1689 ah Cot. and Arch.
 — vorepard Cot. voreward Arch. — 1690 come Cot. — 1691 holde
 Cot. — 1692 rihtne (ne inserted) Cot. riht Arch.

Pultu nu breke forepard
 Ich pene dom þe þuncþ to hard
 1695 For þu ne darst comes abide
 þu pult nu precche fiate and chide
 Jet ich op alle polde rede
 Ar ich uthest uppon op grede
 þat (ȝe) oper fiftlac letep beo
 1700 And ginneþ rape a þei fleo
 For bi pe clivres pat ich bere
 ȝef ȝe abideþ mine here [ms. Cot. fol. 245 c]
 ȝe schule on oper pise singe
 And cursi alle fithinge
 1705 For nis of op non so kene
 þat durre abide mine onsen
 þeos ule spac pel baldeliche
 For þah heo nadde spo hƿatliche
 Ifare after hire here
 1710 Heo polde no pe les ȝeve ansperc [ms. Arch. fol. 241 b]
 pe nihtegale mid spuche porde
 For moni man mid speres orde
 Haveþ lutle strengþe and mid his schelde
 Ac no pe les in one felde
 1715 þurh belde porde and mid ilet
 Dep his ifo for arehþe spete
 pe prenne for heo cuþe singe
 þar com in pare moreȝeninge
 To helpe pare nihtegale
 1720 For þah heo hadde stefne smale
 Heo hadde gode prote and schille
 And feole manne song a pille
 pe prenne pas pel pis iholde
 For þah heo nere ibred a polde

1694 pinkþ Arch. þing Cot. — 1696 wilt Arch. — preche fiate Cot.
 — 1698 ihc utheste Cot. — up eu Arch. — 1699 eur fiftlac Arch.
 — 1703 schulleþ an Arch. — 1704 cursy Arch. acursi Cot. — fithinge
 Cot. — 1705 vor Cot. and Arch. — 1707 hule Cot. — 1710 palde
 neo Cot. na Arch. — ȝefe Cot. yeve Arch. — 1711 nihtegale Cot.
 — spucche Cot. — 1713 strengeþ Cot. — chelde Cot. — 1714 ah Cot.
 and Arch. — neo Cot. na Arch. — 1715 þ Cot. — 1716 ivo Cot.
 and Arch. — 1717 pranne Cot. — 1718 moreȝennge Cot. morewen-
 inge Arch. — 1719 nihtegale Cot. — 1720 stevene Cot. — 1721 porte
 Cot. — 1722 fale Cot. and Arch. — 1723 pranne Cot. — 1724 vor
 peih Arch. vor þe; Cot. at the bottom of the page, after l. 1735.

1725 Heo pas itoȝen a mong monne
 And hire pisdom brohte ponne
 Heo mihte speke hpar heo polde
 Tofore pe kinge pah heo scholde
 Lustep heo cƿap latep me speke

1730 Hpat pulle ȝe þis pais tobreke
 And do þan (kinge) spuche schame
 ȝet nis he nouþer ded ne lame
 Unk schal itide harm and schonde
 ȝef ȝe dop gripbruche on his londe

1735 Latep beo and beop isome
 And farep riht to oper dome [ms. Cot. fol. 245 d]
 And latep dom þis plaid tobreke
 Al spo hit pas erur bispeke
 Ich an pel cƿap pe nihtegale

1740 Ac prenne noht for þire tale
 Ac do for mire lahfulness
 Ich nolde þat unrihtfulness
 Me at pen ende overcome
 Ich nam ofdrad of none dome

1745 Bihote ich habbe sop hit is
 þat maister Nichole þat is þis
 Bitþihen us deme schule
 And ȝet ich þene þat he pule
 Ac hpar mihte pe hine finde [ms. Arch. fol. 241 c]

1750 þe prenne sat in ore linde
 Hpat nute ȝe cƿap heo his hom
 He punep at Portes hom
 At one tune in Dorsete
 Bi pare see in ore utlete

1725 ho *Cot.* — itowen *Arch.* — mannenne *Cot.* *cmp.* *l. 563* mankunne
Arch. — 1726 þenne *Cot.* and *Arch.* *cmp.* *l. 132* — 1727 miȝte *Cot.*
 — palde *Cot.* — 1728 tovore þe king *Cot.* — 1729 queþ letep
Arch. — 1730 ye *Arch.* — pes *Cot.* — 1731 þanne *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — spuch *Cot.* such *Arch.* — 1732 yet *Arch.* ȝe *Cot.* — heo *Arch.*
 — 1733 hunke *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1734 we *Arch.* — 1736 eure *Arch.*
 — 1738 erure *Arch.* — 1739 unne *Arch.* — cƿad *Cot.* queþ *Arch.*
 — niȝtegale *Cot.* — 1740 ah *Cot.* and *Arch.* — pranne *Cot.* — nouȝt
Arch. napt (nayt?) *Cot.* — þine *Arch.* — 1741 ah *Cot.* — myre
 lauhfulness *Arch.* — 1743 overcome *Cot.* — 1744 ofdred *Arch.* —
 1747 bituxen *Cot.* — schulle *Arch.* schulde *Cot.* — 1748 yet *Arch.*
 — wulle *Arch.* — 1749 ah par *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1750 pranne *Cot.*
 — hore *Arch.* — 1751 nuȝte *Cot.* nuȝte *Arch.* — 1753 ine *Cot.*

1755 þar he demeþ manie rihte dom
 And diht and prit mani pisdom
 And þurh his muþ and þurh his honde
 Hit is pe betere in Scotlonde
 To seche hine is lihtlich þing

1760 He naveþ bute one þuning
 þat is bischopen muchel schome
 And alle pan pat of his nome
 Habbeþ iherd and of his dede
 Hpi nulleþ hi nimen heom to rede

1765 þat he pere mid heom ilome
 For teche heom of his pisdome
 And ȝive him rente on feole stude
 þat he mihte heom ilome beo mide
 Certes cƿap pe ule þat is sop

1770 þeos riche men pel muchel misdod [ms. Cot. fol. 246 a]
 þat letep pane gode mon
 þat of so feole þinge con
 And ȝiveþ rente pel misliche
 And of him letep pel lihtliche

1775 Pip heore cunne heo beop mildre
 And ȝeveþ rente lutive childre
 Spo heore pit hi demp adpole
 þat ever abid maister Nichole
 Ac ute pe þah to him fare

1780 For þar is unker dom al ȝare
 Do pe pe nihtegale seide
 Ac hƿa schal unker speche rede
 And telle tofore unker deme
 þar of ich schal pe pel icpeme

1785 Cƿap pe ule for al ende of orde
 Telle ich con pord after porde [ms. Arch. fol. 241 d]

1755 mony riht *Arch.* rihte *Cot.* — 1757 þ *Cot.* — muþe *Cot. and Arch.* — 1758 into *Cot.* — 1759 hyne *Arch.* — 1760 wuning *Arch.* pon-ing *Cot.* — 1761 his *Cot.* — biscopen *Arch.* — schame *Cot. and Arch.* — 1763 iher *Cot.* — 1764 heō *Arch.* — 1766 vor *Arch.* — 1767 a *Cot.* — vale *Cot. and Arch.* — 1768 mijte *Cot.* — be *Cot.* — 1769 quap *Arch.* — hule *Cot.* — sod *Cot.* — 1770 muche mis-dod *Cot.* — 1772 fele *Arch.* — 1773 yeveþ *Arch.* — 1775 pid *Cot.* — 1776 little *Cot.* — 1777 so *Arch.* — demeþ *Arch.* — 1778 þ' ev' *Arch.* — 1779 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — 1781 niȝtigale *Cot.* — 1782 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — pa *Cot.* hwo *Arch.* — 1783 tovore *Cot. and Arch.* — 1784 iqueme *Arch.* — 1785 queþ *Arch.* — houle *Cot.*

And þef þe pincp pat ich misrempe
 þu stond aȝein and do me crempe
 Mid pissem porde forþ hi ferde

1790 Al bute here and bute ferde
 To Portes ham pat heo bicome
 Ac hu heo spedde of heore dome
 Ne can ich eu na more telle
 Her nis na more of pissem spelle

1789 ferdan *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1790 verde *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1791
 þet (per?) hi *Arch.* — 1792 ah *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1793 chan *Cot.*
 — 1794 þis *Cot.*

*Note on l. 432, read morewe for mo rewe.
 L. 1308 left out in ms. Arch.*

CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY NOTES.

L. 8, wole, in ms. Cotton., is probably a mistake for uvele; cmp. l. 31 wl = vul.

L. 10, hi ought to be he.

L. 15, bope, in ms. Cotton., may as well be read boye.

L. 14, beche, in ms. Arch., is perhaps the right reading = bæche, valley.

L. 40, ȝoȝelinge, a mistake for ȝopelinge, connected with Germ. jo-deln?

L. 51, instead of fote (ms. note) Stevenson and Wright read note, which, however, would suit neither the context, nor the rhyme.

L. 69, þe = þi l. 277, 299 &c.

L. 99, dahet, Old French dehaut, affliction, misfortune (Roquef. Gloss. 1, 354).

L. 215, ware, in ms. Arch., would not suit the context and is, therefore, to be considered as a blunder of the scribe.

L. 240, in ms. Cotton, a later hand has inserted eyen after niȝt; a correction which is to be rejected, because it would spoil the sense and the metre.

L. 242, the letters st of strind, in ms. Cotton., are expunged by a later hand; though I can not explain it satisfactorily, I have retained the original reading, because rind does not well suit the context, and the corrector is not at all to be relied on.

L. 248, atprenche (Stratmann's Diction. p. 669) might be easily mistaken for atprenche, because of the similarity of the letters p and þ; see note on l. 1125 and 1566.

L. 270, e ought to be written, though it would not be pronounced before a vowel.

L. 274, me, not in the manuscripts, is required by the sense and the metre.

L. 353, overcpatiен seems to mean cram to excess, and to be connected with the provincial Engl. quat (Stratm. Beiträge 425), Old French quatier (Roquef. Gloss. 2, 414, Diez etym. Wörterb. 277).

L. 367, licst, I must own, looks more like liest in the manuscripts, besides there would probably be lixt in ms. Arch. I, therefore, have printed liest l. 1335.

L. 377, hokeþ (hooks), in both manuscripts, is perhaps a mistake for takeþ.

L. 384, I have not altered an to and, because ms. Arch. has a, and there may be a possibility that a substantive dare turn up.

L. 406, the negative nispicst is required by the sense: "For such becomes bold if thou fleest that will flee if thou doest not cease (yield)."

L. 424, iseop is a mistake of the scribe for isihþ; cmp. l. 407.

L. 478, heom = him.

L. 614, the sign in ms. Cotton, might be y, as well as p; w in ms. Arch. decided me for pernen.

L. 637, ifurne seems to be a substantive formed from ifurn.

L. 682, pene, doubt; cmp. l. 239.

L. 689, pest = pext

L. 748, pes, perhaps (*Stratm. Diction. 690*). This old word the writer of ms. Arch. left out, probably because he did not understand it.

L. 749, al has been added by me for the sake of the metre.

L. 764, soldē, French solde? at all events it can not be scholde (should).

L. 845, ȝene, for ȝeine, l. 893 printed ȝeve by Stevenson, ȝeve by Wright.

L. 932, beon (pres. subj.) is required by beter is; besides, to beon would spoil the metre.

L. 1047, ileove, Middle High Germ. geliebe, who are dear to one another.

L. 1125, p, in ms. Cotton., looks almost like p; Stevenson and Wright, disregarding the rhyme, printed spore.

L. 1172, ms. Cotton. reads an þat ever; I have left out þat as redundant and spoiling the metre; in ms. Arch. ever is left out.

L. 1195, the absurd reading of ms. Cotton. & honge originated in the thoughtless scribe's mistaking an for and; it serves, however, to prove that ms. Arch. is not copied from ms. Cotton.

L. 1246, an I have admitted, in consideration of l. 1199.

L. 1319, might perhaps be amended thus: þat pite inoh of spuche pinge cume; then the sense would be: "The man must be well star-wise who know enough of the coming of such things, as thou sayst that is thy custom".

L. 1322, the reading of the manuscripts bhaiatest is not to be explained; the conjectured bipaitest, although not found anywhere else, may mean regardest, beholdest.

L. 1331, chist = chidst.

L. 1334, the e of pife, in ms. Cotton., looks so much like t that, before I saw ms. Arch., I thought pif t(o) was to be read.

L. 1336, instead of þ (for þ i. e. þurh) me, Stevenson and Wright read in ms. Cot. pine, which, for the letters, they might be justified in doing, but not so for the sense and the metre; see l. 1351 and 1757.

L. 1348, alle is required by the metre,
per ȝis beoþ ȝalle minȝ ibéfre,
as well as by the grammar, ibere being plural = Anglo-Sax. gebærū; cmp. l. 222.

L. 1353, misrempe, I think, is the right reading, though the manuscript looks very much like mis tempe, for which a later hand wrote steppe in the margin; see note on l. 248.

L. 1370, the metre might be set right by substituting ȝet for no þe les.

L. 1405, þury, in ms. Cot., might as well be read þurp and þurp. The signs in hey and þury are quite alike; see note on l. 15 and 614.

L. 1434, when using it, the author seems to have had child in his mind.

L. 1438, oversit, supersedet?

L. 1447, wunglinge, in ms. Arch., is an instance more of the scribe's mistaking w for z; see note on l. 215

L. 1476, the senseless reading ano, in ms. Cotton., arose from the scribe's mistaking t for z (the sign for and); see l. 1489.

L. 1543, ipeld, I now think to be a substantive = Anglo-Sax. ge-peald, power.

L. 1566, the reading of ms. Arch. wine originated in the inadvertent scribe's mistaking p for v.

L. 1586, utsipe (Anglo-Sax. ȳtsid, departure) is, I own, a rather venturesome conjecture, but the only one I can make.

L. 1588, ongrefþ = angrefþ?

L. 1602, forhozep (forhoweþ) can not well be the right reading; it is, however, strange that both manuscripts should coincide in the mistake.

L. 1733, inc would suit the context better than unc.

L. 1764, heom = him? see note on l. 478.

L. 1779, ute, see Dictionary i. v. witen.

RETURN TO	CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT	
→	202 Main Library	
LOAN PERIOD 1	2	3
HOME USE		
4	5	6

DO NOT RECALL THIS CARD

ALL BOOKS MAY BE RECALLED AFTER 7 DAYS
1-month loans may be renewed by calling 642-3400
1-year loans may be recharged by bringing the books to the Circulation Desk
Renewals and recharges may be made 4 days prior to due date

DUE AS STAMPED BELOW

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
FORM NO. DD6, 60m, 1/83 BERKELEY, CA 94720 P:

LD 21A-50m-11-⁶²
(D3279s10) 470B

General Library
University of California
Berkeley